

Bay Area Reporter

VOL. XXV No. 42 October 19, 1995

395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103



Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland

All in the Family

A unique spin on the girls-will-be boys theme happened Oct. 13 at the Cross Dress Drag Party at the Women's Building when (l to r) the executive director of Bay Area Young Positives, Antigone Hodgins, showed up with her mom, Gail Hodgins, and sister, Dierdre Price. The trio reportedly had quite a good time, but many were curious what duds dad was sporting in their absence.

'Let the revolution begin'

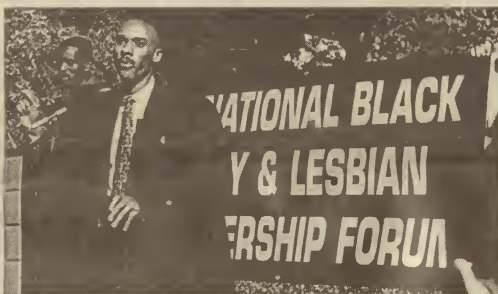
Gays March As Part of 'Million Men'

by Bob Roehr

"Black by Birth, Gay by God, Proud by Choice," read placards carried by a group of a hundred gay men in the Million Man March Monday, October 16.

The National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum organized the contingent to the march, called by the controversial head of the Nation of Islam (NOI), Minister Louis Farrakhan, after much soul-searching and with some trepidation. But their participation matched the warmly positive experience that permeated the event. Pride, determination, and a

Continued on page 16



Keith Boykin, executive director of the Black Gay & Lesbian Leadership Forum, speaks out at Monday's Million Man March in Washington, D.C.

Photo: Bob Roehr

Cal Board of Ed OKs G-word In Health Class Curriculum

by Mary Ann Swissler

The final stumbling block to a more gay-inclusive health curriculum was removed last Friday, October 13 when the California State Board of Education voted unanimously to adopt a textbook, over the objections of many right-wing religious and political fundamentalists.

Nancy Sullivan of the state's office on curriculum told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the board's decision will make the McGraw Hill-Glencoe multimedia health curriculum, currently in use in many school districts around the country, the official state-approved health text. Last month, the State Curriculum Commission voted to adopt the McGraw Hill-

Glencoe health text and passed their recommendation onto the State Board.

Predictably, right-wing groups and individuals, including the Reverend Lou Sheldon, mounted a vitriolic protest to the text's mildly inclusive treatment of gays and lesbians. Gay activists expressed cautious optimism in in-

Continued on page 14

Where To Get Tricks, Treats, And Halloween Candy This Year

Plus Jeff Stryker, Joan Crawford, and Joan Jett Blakk!

by Mary Ann Swissler

The Castro District isn't the only place in town to go tricking or treating. Here are just a few pre-Halloween parties going on in San Francisco and in the surrounding 'burbs:

Running from 4 to 10 p.m. each weekday, and noon to 10 p.m. on weekends, from **Friday, October 20 through Tuesday, October 31, The San Francisco OctoberFAIR** will take place at Pier 32 on the Embarcadero beneath the Bay Bridge. Also known

as "The Affordable, Safe Halloween," this full-fledged carnival will include 18 rides, games, and a wide assortment of food, exhibitions, and entertainment. \$6 during the week and \$10 on weekends gets you on all the rides. Call

Continued on page 20

Gay Money Gets Dole To Flip-Flop

United Press International

Senate Republican leader Bob Dole has blamed his campaign staff for sending a \$1,000 check back to the Log Cabin Republicans this year - and said it probably would not have happened if he had been consulted.

But, he said during an interview with Ohio reporters Tuesday, October 17, "Because you accept money doesn't mean you agree with their agenda."

During the meeting, Dole stressed that he does not believe in discrimination - but campaign spokesman Nelson Warfield also reiterated that he does not support the "gay rights agenda."

"Since contributions do not influence him - of course - he personally saw no need to return this particular check," said Warfield, who had also defended the return of the funds against some sharp

criticism earlier this summer. At that time he said it was policy to return contributions from groups with positions different from Dole's.

That defense has changed, with Warfield saying, "The campaign returned this contribution to protect Senator Dole from distortions of his record, either by groups that would use a contribution to imply he supports all their view or by opponents that might try similar tactics." Several opponents have already used the controversy over the donation to criticize Dole, who has often been accused by his opponents in the GOP presidential race of reversing himself on a number of issues, especially tax cuts.

Warfield said the campaign, taking its cue from Dole, would decline a similar contribution to avoid a similar controversy.

Continued on page 11

Witnesses to Esta Noche Attack Sought

by Dennis Conkin

San Francisco police hate crimes investigators have asked *Bay Area Reporter* readers for any information they may have about a brutal anti-gay attack Friday, October 6 that left a young gay man permanently blind in one eye.

The incident happened in Caledonia Alley, across the street from Esta Noche, a popular 16th Street gay bar.

In the 1:30 a.m. incident, 18-year-old Robert Hernandez was attacked, according to Sergeant Marlene Ottone of the police Special Investigation Bureau, and was blinded in the eye by a blow to the face with a bottle.

"We are seeking further wit-

nesses," Ottone said.

Ottone said that one juvenile suspect is in custody for the attack, and another has been cited in the hate crime.

Joining Ottone in asking for assistance from readers was openly gay assistant district attorney Chuck Haines.

"It was a horrible, horrible crime, and we need anyone who has any information about the incident to come forward," Haines said. ▽

Ottone can be reached at the police Special Investigations Bureau at (415) 553-1139, and Haines can be reached at the District Attorney's office at (415) 553-1825.

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Meet buckminster duck, the hero of the B.A.R.'s new comic strip by Earl Storm, *Such Is Life*, on page 9.

Community Dental Update



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- DO** • Remember to change your toothbrush at least every two or three months if not sooner. A brush with worn out bristles cannot effectively clean your teeth and may injure your gums.
- DO** • Ask your dental health professional which of the anti-plaque rinses may be helpful as an addition to daily brushing and flossing.
- DON'T** • Brush up and down and side to side.
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Street Patrol Redux

by Mary Ann Swissler

Prospective volunteers gathered at the Women's Building Friday, October 13 to discuss revitalizing the old Street Patrol group, and organizers say there's still room for many more to get involved.

The Street Patrol was formed in the summer of 1990 by Queer Nation member Ellen Twinamein to patrol some neighborhoods and - if gay bashing or other trouble was spotted - to intercede on behalf of victims. It disbanded approximately 18 months ago for a number of reasons, according to former member Peg Yeates.

"It takes a lot of energy to keep something going, and we just got kind of burned out," she told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Now a handful of lesbians and gay men who have been thinking about reuniting are ready to begin training both the patrol members (who will sport those eye-catching fuchsia berets) and the volunteers to do the office work needed to keep their program going. Yeates said they're shooting for a spring start-up time.

She stressed that all volunteers need is a desire to help their community. "We're looking for anyone who wants to help in any way," she said.

As before, the street patrol's uniforms, radios, and batteries will be bought with private donations. Yeates added that they hope to work again with Community United Against Violence (CUAV), tracking the information coming into their office from the city. "We would watch the statistics and see if we find a trend somewhere," then turn out a presence in parts of



Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland

Ready for anything: Demonstrating the "Post Up" de-escalation technique are (l to r) Ann Mattis, Peg Yeates, Suegee Tamar and Moore Robinson.

town that seem to have become trouble spots.

Urban violence

When the patrol finds trouble, Yeates said, "We don't wait for the police to show up" to intervene. Even so, she said they got along well with SFPD, and predicted they will do so again.

A typical patroller will spend six hours per week, Yeates told the *B.A.R.*, with four hours walking a "precinct" and two in training. They will most likely spend most of their time in the Castro, with only the most experienced patrols venturing out into the Tenderloin and Mission.

Even just one hour per month spent on fundraising and paperwork will help, she said.

Yeates emphasized that only veteran street patrollers will perform the training. "We want to

give people something positive to work with," she said.

Yeates said because the problem of urban violence in San Francisco hasn't changed - "It doesn't seem like violent crime has gone away" - people who live here must change, by getting better educated about personal safety.

The point is to take a stand against bashers, she said. "We don't know if we can make them go away, but we can at least make it go somewhere else." She acknowledged that in that case the underlying problem remained unsolved, and simply turned into someone else's problem, but said there are few alternatives to standing one's ground and telling perpetrators "Not in my backyard." ▼

Peg Yeates and Street Patrol can be reached at (415) 841-0959.

Cops Cite, Release Anti-Gay Attackers on Noe

by Dennis Conkin

Two teenage girls were cited by police and turned over to the

custody of their parents after they allegedly attacked a disabled gay man's car near the Cafe Florio on upper Market Street Monday, October 16.

Scott Walker, a founder of Bay Positives, a support and social group for HIV-positive young adults, said the incident happened around 4 p.m., and that after the attack the two juveniles fled the scene and tried to hide out in the Tower Records store at Market and Noe.

"It was definitely a hate crime. They were cited and taken home to their parents," Walker told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "I didn't think I would be ever be assaulted," he said. "I've lived in rough neighborhoods in Boston and New York without any problems."

Walker, who is disabled because of HIV, said he was resting in the front seat of his car with his eyes closed when the two juvenile females approached his car.

"I wasn't feeling very well and I was just laying back in the reclining seat with a high-grade fever and chills," Walker said.

The juvenile females walked by Walker's 1995 Ford Aspire and without provocation began making anti-gay slurs - and then attacked the vehicle, Walker told the *B.A.R.*

"They said, 'Look at the white faggot motherfucker,' and then kicked the side of my car in," Walker said. "They ran into Tower Records."

Walker said that when he saw the girls run into the store, "I ran after them fever or no fever," and asked Tower security guards to detain them and call the police.

However, he said, "I wasn't given any support by their staff. I asked the security guards to call the police, but they said it wasn't their job. I threatened to sue them and Tower. The security guards only called the police because I threatened them, and just after they called a manager in, the police arrived."

According to Walker, the girls continued to verbally assault him at Tower.

"One of them said that she did not hate gay people, but this would make her hate gay people," he said.

Walker said that he couldn't understand why Tower security personnel initially declined to tell the police - but despite their initial reluctance to call the police, the security guards "were actually more helpful than the Tower management," which he said initially wanted to just photocopy the girls' i.d. and then release them.

Walker also said a Tower employee actually suggested to him that he should not press charges, despite the damage to his car in the anti-gay incident, because the suspects were adolescents.

"A woman from our own community came over and said that they were only little girls and why don't I just let them go. I was so hurt by that remark."

Walker also said that the police who arrived didn't initially seem interested in arresting the juveniles, but finally cited them and returned them to their parents' custody after he insisted on having a report taken and a police case number assigned to the incident. ▼



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Castro Village Owners Alleged To Be Anti-Gay

by Dennis Conkin

The company that operates the Castro Village Pharmacy on 18th Street was accused with sexual orientation civil rights violations in a lawsuit filed Monday, October 16 in the U.S. District Court in San Francisco.

The lawsuit was filed by attorney Robert E. Lazo for the Law Offices of Paul Wotman, on behalf of Scott K. Monroe, a former sales manager for CVP's parent company, the New Mexico-based company Diagnostek, Inc. It seeks \$5 million for anti-gay job bias, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and wrongful termination of public policy.

Canadian entrepreneur Paul Morabito opened the pharmacy with great fanfare in 1982, and marketed it as a gay-friendly drugstore for people with AIDS. Morabito sold Castro Village to Diagnostek in 1993, around the time the company also purchased a life insurance vatication business.

Monroe had been hired for his position on the spot during a second interview with the company, and received many letters of commendation and bonuses for exemplary work.

But according to Monroe's suit, certain managers at the Diagnostek

headquarters began to ask and speculate about his sexual orientation shortly after he was hired — staffers who, according to other CVP workers, had previously expressed strong anti-gay sentiments to other workers.

For example, the suit alleges that Diagnostek president Nunzio DeSantis told employees that he didn't want "any fucking fags in his corporation," and dismissed Morabito as a "cocksucker."

Monroe was terminated as Western Region Sales Manager in January, when the company eliminated his position — without notice or just cause — as a pretext, according to the lawsuit.

The lawsuit also charges that Diagnostek vice president Art Solomon "hated gay people" and found homosexuality "disgusting and unnatural" and allegedly said after Monroe was fired that he was "glad to get rid of Scott because he was gay."

"Although my client had one of

the best sales performance records nationwide in the company, he was wrongfully terminated after the Diagnostek executives learned that he was gay," attorney Paul Wotman said.

The evidence gathered to support the allegations in the lawsuit was "truly shocking," Wotman said, and includes testimony from former CVP employees who confirm the Diagnostek executives' anti-gay remarks.

"We usually don't have such strong and obvious evidence of homophobia," Wotman told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Wotman said that he filed the lawsuit with the hopes of raising the awareness of the continuing and frequent problem of sexual orientation discrimination in the workplace.

Discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in employment has been illegal since 1993, and anti-gay actions or remarks are legally actionable. ▼



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Latin Coalition To Discuss Medicaid Cuts

by Dennis Conkin

Representatives from the Latin Coalition For A Healthy California will hold a press conference this morning (10/19) at San Francisco General Hospital to discuss the negative impact of proposed federal Medicaid cuts.

The group, which includes lesbian leader Alicia Lara from the California Pan-Ethnic Health Network, will also present a major policy paper that details the impact of the proposed cuts and makes recommendations to offset their impact.

Medicaid and welfare reform proposals are scheduled for a vote in Congress next week, and health advocates say that San Francisco and four other counties stand to lose \$1.3 billion in Medicaid funds.

Other coalition speakers include Rogelio Lopez of the Asian Pacific Islander American Health Forum, and Gladys Sandlin of the Mission Neighborhood Health Center.

The conference will be held in the SFGH lobby beginning at 10 a.m. For more information contact Carmella Castellano or Brenda Solorzano at (415) 431-7430. ▼

Photo Finishing

The photo caption on page 11 of last week's *Bay Area Reporter*, accompanying a story on the Women's Conference in Beijing, failed to identify the organizations with which Rachel West, Lori Wairne, and Cindy O'Donnell are affiliated. Those groups are the US Prostitutes Collective; International Wages Due Lesbians; and Legal Action for Women, respectively.

Also, the photo caption on page 51 failed to identify the tattoo contest winner as Robert K. Brandon of San Francisco. The winning tattoos were created in Chicago and in Sturges, S.D.

The B.A.R. regrets the omissions.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Muni Hears F-Line Complaints

Where Do They Get Off?

by Mary Ann Swissler

A group of Castro-area merchants has asked Muni officials to give neighborhood riders a break when drivers take their work breaks, typically when they reach 17th and Castro streets.

According to Merchants of Upper Market President Barry Hermanson, a dangerous situation has developed from streetcar operators on the new "F" line who let passengers disembark directly onto the street at the end of the line at 17th and Castro, before reaching the boarding platform designed for passengers to get off. By not pulling all the way up to the platform, drivers can take a brief break without letting inbound passengers on.

However, said Herman, "This blocks traffic on 17th Street, and it's dangerous for MUNI patrons to disembark and cross traffic."

Although no unpleasant incident has happened yet, he said, "Number one, I don't want to wait for [an accident] to happen. Number two, we have a situation where



Photo: Jane Philomen Cleand

Pull up to the platform: F-line passengers often get let out on the street.

the street gets blocked for people to get in or out using 17th Street.

"Most importantly," he added, "we paid over \$100,000 for each one of those safety boarding islands." He acknowledged that even when the islands are not used for unloading, they are used for waiting and boarding.

"Perhaps it could be worked out that drivers can take their

breaks at Transbay terminal," Hermanson suggested, or drivers could hang a sign out that they're on break after letting passengers out onto the safety island. "We're just looking for some kind of solution," he said.

Hermanson said he has spoken with Muni spokesman Gordon Smith about the situation, but no further progress has been made. ▼

Elephant Walk To Remain Gay Venue

by Dennis Conkin

The site of the Elephant Walk at 500 Castro Street will remain a gay venue after the current lease expires, real estate agent Paul Langley announced Monday, October 16.

Langley owns the property, which houses the historic gay restaurant and bar, and has extended the lease of the business — owned by Michael Verdone — through the end of the year.

Verdone was initially given until the end of September to vacate the premises; he lost the lease to the site when Langley raised the rent from an estimated \$14,000 to \$21,000.

Langley stressed that the restaurant and bar operation at the site, after Verdone's departure, will include historic exhibits of the gay rights movement.

"We are looking to our community's support in our efforts to provide a pleasant and vibrant set-

ting that we can all be proud of for many, many years," he said.

"The historic significance of the Castro and of the 500 Castro location will be emphasized," Langley said. "We hope 500 Castro will become a tribute to gay pride and a testimony to the quality, good taste, and excellence that gay people can create and provide."

The landmark gay bar and restaurant will specialize in a "reasonably priced health conscious menu" of nouvelle California cuisine, and provide a "clean, bright gathering place" for the entire community, he said.

Community concerns

Langley's move is welcomed by community activists, merchants, and residents who are concerned that the Castro is losing its identity as a gay neighborhood. An ad hoc committee has formed in response to community fears that the neighborhood is turning

into a street mall and tourist trap.

The Los Angeles-based fast food chain Johnny Rocket's had planned to lease the 500 Castro site when the Elephant Walk's closure was first announced, until controversy began to brew over another chain restaurant operation replacing another gay business on the economically fragile street.

The committee — including representatives from Mayor Frank Jordan and Supervisors Tom Amiano and Terence Hallinan — will work with landlords and business owners in identifying and resolving concerns, including the increase in tourists with the opening of the F-line street car in September.

"There have been a couple of problems mentioned. The F line and the increase in commercial rents is a difficult problem because what it does is force small business off the street and bring in chain stores," said organizer Tommi Aviccolli Mecca. ▼

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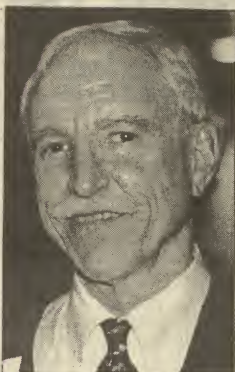
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Hormel, Vaid Co-Chair Int'l Homophobia Tribunal



James Hormel.

by Dennis Conkin

Lesbian and gay activists held the first-ever International Tribunal on Human Rights Violations Against Sexual Minorities Tuesday, October 17 in New York City.

The tribunal was sponsored by the International Lesbian and Gay Human Rights Commission and Community United Against Violence.

A distinguished panel of human rights experts heard the testimony of lesbians and gays from around the world who have been persecuted because of their sexual orientation.

"The UN continues to turn a blind eye to human rights violations based on sexual orientation, gender identity and HIV status," ILGHRC's Julie Dorf said about

the need for the event.

The tribunal included Kerry Kennedy Cuomo, former director of the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Center, and Sri Lankan human rights expert Sunila Abeysekera.

Co-chairs of the tribunal are James C. Hormel, gay philanthropist and founding director of the Human Rights Campaign, and gay liberation theorist and author Urvashi Vaid.

Among the lesbians and gays with personal experience in human rights violations who testified at the tribunal were Daphne Scholinski, a 29-year-old San Francisco lesbian who was institutionalized in a psychiatric facility between the ages of 14 and 18 with a psychiatric diagnosis of "gender identity disorder."

Also scheduled to testify was Ciprian Cucu of Timosara, Romania, who was arrested with his lover under anti-gay Romanian law. They were released with pressure from ILGHRC and Amnesty International.

Only a few United Nations organizations, such as the World Health Organization, the UN High Commission For Refugees, and the UN Human Rights Committee, recognize human rights violations against sexual minorities. ▼

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OOTI Comes Out On Top

by Mary Ann Swisler

Out On The Island raised nearly \$1,300 from the "Coming Out Dance" it held Saturday, October 14 in Alameda. The East Bay lesbian and gay rights organization has been working at a fever pitch since June, when their city's mayor refused to pass a Pride Month proclamation, and the dance was a rare chance to get to-

gether simply to have fun.

Some 250 people came to the event, according to organizer Kelly Stemple: he ought to know, as the person who headed up the crew who cleaned up and returned the chairs. "It was all worth it," he added.

Treasurer Greg Alves commented, "We needed the money to offset some of the cost of our October Gay and Lesbian History

Month event expenses, so this is a nice relief."

Out On The Island will hold a Candidate's Night on Thursday, November 9 in the cafeteria of Encinal High School. Call (510) 337-1300 for more information. On November 11, an "Affirmation of Life and Community" breakfast will be held at Christ Episcopal Church. Call (510) 521-2485 for more information. ▼

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EDITORIAL

Proposition C: Save Steinhart Aquarium

One of the special treasures of San Francisco is the Steinhart Aquarium. It is the oldest municipal aquarium in the country. It is also 72 years old. Time and salt water erosion have taken its toll on this treasure of the city. The last earthquake also caused an additional amount of damage.

Over one and a half million tourists pay to visit the aquarium each year, and an additional 200,000 school children are admitted free on an annual basis. Aquarium director Robert Jenkins states that the staff is hard pressed to keep up with the disintegration of much of the decaying equipment that maintains the lives of hundreds of species of fish and other marine life.

Another major earthquake would wreck the aquarium and destroy or kill most of the fish

there.

In addition to the public exhibits, the Steinhart has ongoing marine research labs that constantly research for the betterment of worldwide marine environments. This bond issue would pay for building and infrastructure repairs, as well as improvement of the building's life support facilities for the life that is maintained in the building.

This facility is long overdue for repairs. In addition to money from the bond issue, the trustees are prepared to help raise an additional \$25 to \$30 million dollars from private donations to help modernize public spaces, exhibitions, and viewing tanks.

The Steinhart is long overdue for a major overhaul. It deserves your support – vote YES on Proposition C.

Proposition J: Muni Audit

What's wrong with Muni? This is the question asked by Proposition J. There are too many things that don't seem to operate properly in the City's public transportation system. Many voters signed an initiative to demand an audit to find out what can be done to help

solve the myriad problems that beset Muni.

We think it's a good idea, and it is certainly time to get some answers. Let's look into Muni and then address the problems, if any, that arise.

Vote yes on a Muni audit – vote YES on Proposition J.

GUEST OPINION

Wrong on Rights

From the Valley News
West Lebanon, New Hampshire
Reprinted by permission

When the New Hampshire Legislature considered expanding the state's civil rights law to protect homosexuals, few rose to defend the practice of discriminating against gay people. Instead, most opponents simply argued that the change was unnecessary: gay people living in New Hampshire already were protected against bias on the part of employers, landlords and those who control public buildings.

Actually, the measure almost succeeded. The so-called gay rights bill passed the House and lost by only a few votes in the Senate. Instrumental to its defeat in the Senate were Governor Steve Merrill's assurances that his attorney general had advised him that homosexuals were adequately protected.

Although that opinion was contradicted at the time by lawyers who testified before the legislature, charitable observers could conclude that the proposal was rejected out of a legitimate difference of opinion, not hostility toward gay people. Passing unnecessary laws isn't just silly; it undermines respect for those that exist.

But what interpretation is possible now?

Two men in Hollis allege that a real estate company, upon learning that they were gay, broke a contract with them to sell their house and persuaded other agencies to refuse to do business with them. Believing that they were protected against discrimination by state law, they filed a complaint with the New Hampshire Real Estate Commission.

More than a year after they filed the claim, the commission rejected their complaint. "Because of the lack of statutory and regulatory prohibition of this discrimination, this case has no legal foundation for a complaint," one of the commissioners wrote in the ruling. "Sexual orientation is not included as a protected category."

Note that the commission didn't rule that the complaint was unfounded. It said nothing about the validity of the complaint. Instead, it ruled that it was powerless to act because state law said nothing about this type of discrimination.

Presumably, other agencies asked to rule on such a complaint would be equally powerless to respond.

Merrill's reaction? He welcomed the ruling as vindication of his initial position.

"In my opinion, the kind of case you have cited is precisely the kind of case that should be heard in that forum. We don't need rules and regulations and federal laws if we use common sense."

This reminds us of that classic bumper-sticker: "I brake for hallucinations." What is the governor talking about?

If we're going to invoke "common sense," the only fair conclusion is that the governor's opposition to a gay rights bill had nothing to do with disliking redundant laws.

He simply didn't – and still doesn't – care about the civil rights of this group of New Hampshire residents. ▼

LETTERS

The scarlet letter

On Monday, September 18, 1995, I attended a Stop AIDS Project four-hour discussion group where, to my astonishment, I was profoundly offended and made to feel degraded and leprous. Not only was I the only person with AIDS at this forum, a forum at which all other participants claimed to be negative or unwilling to know their status. It baffled me that two of them even claimed not to know anyone with HIV. It is painful to witness the denial and ignorance of the Castro Street middle-class Republican conservative white male society.

Being the only black person (African-American—the p.c. term this week) in attendance was nowhere near as uncomfortable as being the only scarlet letter person with AIDS at this S.A. Project discussion group.

As a person in recovery, which I learned about four years ago in Atlanta, GA, where I attended predominantly white heterosexual meetings, I felt more compassion, acceptance and love than I have seen in most parts of this so-called gay (male) community. I am one of the Wayback Sisters (the old Polk Street crowd from 15 years ago that are still alive) and since returning to my native city, it's criminal the thoughts that go through my head when I look at the gay men's community in San Francisco today.

This is excluding the AIDS practical support and recovery agencies, which I have found effective and supportive.

As a PWA of eight years, the support groups and AIDS agencies I dealt with in the South and now being back in San Francisco for four months, I am affiliated with various agencies: a client of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Shanti, a speaker for the WEDGE Program, a former Baker Places client, volunteer at Bay Positives, active member of PWAC, as well as a resident of the Peter Claver Community. Not to say that I am a distinguished authority on AIDS, but I feel I have a substantial amount of knowledge on the subject.

I feel the information given by the Stop AIDS Project is necessary, but I feel some of the funds used on paperwork by the S.A. Project should be shared with a person like myself who is living and dealing with life as a PWA, who could help the S.A. Project teach people to deal with the acceptance of AIDS. For some reason it seems the S.A. Project focuses on that C.S.M.C.R.C.W.M.S. (see first paragraph) who are on the Bill Clinton gay military plan of Don't ask, Don't tell, and we can have uncaring, superficial, exterior-oriented selfish sex. I know from experience. Been there, done that, didn't work, moved on.

I have spoken to at least three other HIV-positive persons who have had similar experiences dating back a few years. Well, I am the one speaking out! Let's get real, men, the lesbian community has evolved and united in so many ways, let's learn from them. We should not let a deadly virus kill the life of our sex of the gay community. My favorite line of hope for the future is: If the human race had the attitude of the HIV virus, it would be a wonderful world to live in. Let's get real, sweeties.

None of the agencies listed are responsible for any of my opinions.

Vanilla Willafisgo
San Francisco

Roberta's career

Let's set the record straight. As one who has been privileged to observe and interact with City Hall politics these past seven years, it has been delightfully evident to me that Roberta Achtenberg is a unique individual who consistently (1) listens more than she talks, (2) brings a thorough, thoughtful analysis to bear on every utterance and (3) is the candidate in this mayoral race who focuses on the issues of San Francisco rather than the attributes of her opponents!

Political ambition? Of course. Would we have it otherwise? Would the Hon. Mr. Brown be running for Mayor of San Francisco if he could still be Speaker of the Assembly?

And who was appointed to fill Roberta's chair when she went to Washington? One of the few people in this town who could do justice to the position: Supervisor Susan Leal! Did we benefit from both those decisions? You betcha!

Roberta has squarely faced both her constituents and the issues throughout her career. Her sojourn in Washington has been but further preparation to bring a national and global perspective to the politics of San Francisco, which I believe could often benefit from remembering that we exist in the larger context of these 50 states and the world! Roberta's excellent sense of timing has taken her away and brought her back ... both moves designed to enhance her ability to be of service to our community.

Roberta Achtenberg has availed herself of every possible opportunity to learn and refine the exercise of both legislative and executive responsibilities with integrity. She is, quite simply, the best possible choice for the office of Mayor of San Francisco.

Judith E. Stevenson
San Francisco

Mommy, Leal was rude

From time to time we have certain politicians emerge among us who turn out to be real turkeys. There is one now squawking on the Board of Supervisors who is a real discredit to the gay and lesbian community. We need to do something about her. I refer to Stupidvisor Susan Leal.

Since she has been on the Board of Supervisors, she has done very little that amounts to much. She was the sponsor of legislation to change the name of a historic street from Army to Cesar Chavez Street. Most of us support the idea that Chavez should certainly be honored for his accomplishments, but what Susan Leal has done is to pit half the town against the other half, in a great civic confrontation. Thus we have Proposition "O." This is a rotten thing for any politician to do. She also misrepresented herself before the citizens of this great city by telling them that the cost of renaming Army Street would be little when in fact, after the freeway signs and everything are redone, the cost will be in the millions. And don't forget this expense will be shoved on us when the city doesn't have the necessary funds to deal with homeless and health issues, etc. Let us support Proposition "O" and let Leal know we do not support her ignorant endeavors.

Now her latest pathetic civic endeavor is to replace our beautiful trash bins with a cheap wire basket that will spill its contents onto the street and what remains inside will be visible and stink. What a wonderful way for Leal to serve her constituents.

In my capacity as President of the Dolores Park Neighborhood Association, I will soon escort Willie Brown, who many of us believe will be our next great Mayor, on a tour through Dolores Park. A gay man was just severely beaten there suffering a dislocated jaw and loss of several teeth. Because of my own efforts to improve the park, I have received death threats. It is now time to do something once and for all about taking back our beautiful neighborhood. Numerous important civic leaders are insisting that they accompany Willie and myself on this park tour. Dolores Park serves both the Castro and the Mission.

Susan Leal is a Chicano [sic] lesbian politician. Recently, when I ran into her, I was gracious enough to invite her to participate in our neighborhood concerns.

She informed me rudely that she was not interested. Dear brothers and sisters, the most important issue now on the table is for us to get rid of this mean-spirited man, Frank Jordan, who lives well in a million dollars-plus mansion but will not tolerate poor people who have nothing and sleep under a bush in Golden Gate Park.

But we will succeed in electing Willie Brown mayor. He is a long-standing friend of our community and a man who will be a great mayor. Then I will give my utmost attention to forming a task force for the purpose of recalling this nitwit supervisor Susan Leal.

Glenn-Allen McKeever
San Francisco

[The editor responds: Blaming Supervisor Leal for the Prop O ballot measure is a bit like blaming gay people for "don't ask, don't tell"—both were created by right-wing defenders of the status quo in response to efforts to implement change and/or progress.]

Pizza the neighborhood

I am writing to correct a misimpression presented in your article on the Elephant Walk in the 9/28 issue. Escape From N.Y. Pizza is not a franchise. All three stores are operated by the same owners. We have been in the Castro neighborhood for 15 years (previously we owned Captain Video).

We are and have always been neighborhood conscious. We feed two hospices on a weekly basis and contribute to numerous local charities. We strongly believe a business has the responsibility to put something back into its neighborhood. We will continue to be a responsible and conscientious neighbor.

Paul Geffner
EFNY Pizza

Sorry, wrong quotation

In your coverage of General Powell's visit to San Francisco (B.A.R., September 28), Michael Battiste's statement that "I just want to meet the man. I can say he seems to be sincere about everything he believes in. I will support him if he runs for President regardless of his opinion on gays in the military" was erroneously attributed to me. I stated that I would remain undecided until Powell comments on how he feels about gay rights in the civilian sector.

Joel William Roberts
San Francisco

[The B.A.R. deeply regrets the error.]

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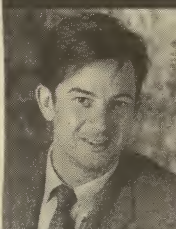
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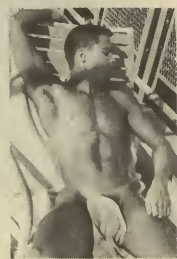


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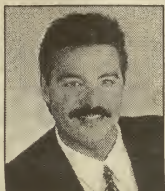
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LETTERS

Red flags on Castro

Physically violent crimes have struck in the Castro recently, all within days of each other. Is it a coincidence that approximately a year ago physical violence against us, more specifically a gay brother who was shot, was right around Halloween in the Castro? Why wasn't a decision made to hold the festivities earlier in the day? Why do we only become concerned at the last moment and after violent acts happen? Hello ... is anyone awake out there?

People, red flags should be going off in your heads, along with whistles on your key chains and mace or pepper spray close at hand. Also, drinking should be kept at a minimum as to not impair your intuition and reflex capabilities. Be wary of strangers and don't listen to those who say, "Well, you can't be afraid of going out." Ask yourselves, who is going to be paying for your medical expenses if you should become a victim of a physically violent crime? Your philosophical friends? Don't think so!

We all should be raising questions about the quantity and quality amount of time the Sisters and CUAV supposedly put in trying to move the Halloween festivities out of the Castro this year because of its size. When the issue came up it reeked of last-minute excuses and decisions. The Sisters are nothing more than ordinary human beings under all the make-up and garb, and they do make mistakes and bad decisions. I feel the violence will be made known this year, and if one drop of blood is spilled because of these last-minute decisions it should be on their hands. I say change the time of the festivities or cancel it altogether until next year.

Steven D. Keller
San Francisco

Halloween saga

I have watched with amusement as the saga about the control of Halloween Fundraiser has unfolded.

Four years ago I had the privilege of observing the mediation sessions between CUAV and S.P.I. Inc.. I have to confess that I was sort of like a fly on the wall as I observed the behavior of CUAV's representatives and thought to myself that something about the interactions was amiss. Just let me say that CUAV's accusations of lack of respect for their input (regarding their perceived relationship with the Sisters), implications of gay male dominance, etc. were entirely inappropriate and seemed like big projections. (Or maybe just smokescreens for another agenda). Sorry about the psychobabble—I am a psychiatrist (M.D.), and the group dynamics were a lesson in psychopathology and borderline functioning. (Let me just add that I don't fault gay people for their personality problems as most of us have been abused into them).

I saw this fundraiser as an opportunity for male and female gay people to accomplish something together thus binding us to a common ground of mutual self respect that could strengthen the gay community in San Francisco. But in the end this did not happen, as I suspect that members of the community other than the Sisters saw this event as a big cash cow and plotted behind the scenes to gain control. I wondered why CUAV did not show up for security last year?

I hope that CUAV does do a good job and raises lots of money for the community; I also hope but doubt that they have the expertise to pull it off. I hope that the gay community will be astute enough to watch and judge how things are handled. And I really wish that gay people would work to a common ground as our unity will be sorely tested in the upcoming years. The least we could do is recognize this and work to strengthen our bonds rather than plot behind each other's backs.

John Otemaa M.D.
San Francisco

Message to Spokane

[The following letter was sent to Mayor Frank Jordan:]

I wanted to thank you for your letter (B.A.R., 10/5) to the Mayor of Spokane, Washington, regarding the comments of the coroner, Dr. Dexter Amend, in which you came out in opposition to the coroner's public comments about gays and AIDS.

My gratitude comes from a very personal level because my father is Dr. Amend's assistant and lives in the same bigoted world. The fact that I am living with AIDS does not seem to motivate any education on either man's part. Given the delicate nature of the job, it is sad that they are so insensitive regarding human suffering. Your remarks will hopefully send an important message to the Mayor and citizens of Spokane that there are cities in America that support their community members regardless of sexual preference or illness.

I will continue to make the Bay Area my home for that very reason.

Gary Langbehn
Oakland

Stop attacking teachers

I am dismayed by the outrageous libels and flagrant falsehoods that have appeared in print regarding allegations that an improper presentation was provided to students during a Community United Against Violence (CUAV) presentation at Everett Middle School three years ago. A school district review showed the charges to be unfounded exaggerations motivated by prejudice.

More distressing is the unquestioned assumption of the truth of these accusations. The stories about this matter were reported with headlines that describe a lurid classroom presentation of explicit sexual practices. This is completely inaccurate. It didn't happen.

Some newspaper columnists have bought into this ridiculous story without making any effort to verify the credibility or stability of those making these charges. Unfortunately, I have many times been on the receiving end of Mr. Budnick's abusive and obsessive behavior. Has anyone thought to ask why he, a self-described "liberal Jewish carpenter" (is this a messiah complex?), is associated with an organization like the Rutherford Institute, a secretive homophobic far-right out-of-town legal organization? This fundamentalist patron's goal is to eliminate gay sensitive programs from our schools.

This vindictive attack on the teachers whose class hosted this district-approved presentation is merely a malicious tactic to destroy an excellent program they have failed to block by legitimate means. Absurd claims that this program constitutes child abuse made by an embittered former PTA leader serve only to trivialize this serious and tragic problem.

Not since the McCarthy era has the nasty scheming of two cranky individuals been allowed by complicit and biased newspaper columnists to slander with obnoxious impunity. This situation represents a fundamental threat to teach without ideological blinders. It is far bigger than just anti-gay prejudice. These teachers' critics seek to strike at the heart of our public educational system under a phony guise of promoting parental involvement.

As the former President of the Board of Education, I know that the School Board and the district administration repeatedly made a complete and full faith effort to hear Mr. Budnick's concerns. In fact, an extra effort to accommodate issues raised by Mr. Budnick was made in family life classes.

For example, the CUAV Speakers Bureau and the WEDGE programs now begin with eighth grade classes. As always, a two-week advance notice is sent to parents when outside speakers are to be invited into classes. All requests to be exempt from family life classes are honored immediately. Additionally, supplementary training for all teachers regarding changes in these programs has been established.

These two teachers have excellent evaluations from a variety of administrations. Their side of this story is not presented. San Francisco can ill-afford the loss of such exemplary teachers to serve vengeful vendettas and ugly prejudices.

Supervisor Tom Ammiano
San Francisco

Prosecute real criminals

[The following letter was sent to District Attorney Arlo Smith:]

I am writing you to tell you how outraged I am that three men who brutally assaulted me at the Marina Jack in the Box this past January were not brought up on any charges at all. As a citizen of San Francisco who has lived here for over 20 years I am outraged that three men can beat me, break my arm, make anti-gay statements as they attempt to kill me, and all your office can tell me is that "there is not evidence to move on this case."

I am further outraged that you wrote a letter to the GOP Central Committee stating "I am deeply troubled that GOP staff members remain traumatized by" ACT UP/San Francisco's demonstration at the SF GOP headquarters. I must point out that no one was physically hurt during this demonstration, and four men are on trial for the use of paint. You are willing to send people with AIDS to jail for the use of paint during a demonstration, yet you allow three fag bashers to walk the street scot-free.

For months I have lived in terror. I have had to have an alarm system put on my home and get a German Shepherd police dog because I live in fear of my attackers. Thanks to the SFPD, my attackers know where I live, and I have seen them looking at my home as they drive by. I have lived in pain ever since my attack, both physically and emotionally, because the system that you are the head of, the Office of the District Attorney of the City of San Francisco, let me down as a victim of a hate crime. I am further traumatized by your office's lack of concern for my safety and welfare.

I am not like Mr. Chris Bowman of the Log Cabin Club, and will not whine about you not pressing charges against my attackers. The issue is over for me. In November I will cast my vote for someone who cares, Supervisor Terence Hallinan. 15 years of Arlo Smith is just too much for the city of San Francisco.

Gary Allen Johnson
San Francisco

Are the Democrats in trouble? You betcha.

Beltway Blues

When Georgia's anti-gay Senator Sam Nunn declared last week that he was retiring from the exclusive Capitol Hill Club at the end of his term, it was just more bad news for congressional Democrats, who now hold only 46 seats in the 100-member Senate. Nunn's announcement means that of the 15 Democratic members up for reelection next year, eight have already stated their intention to quit.

Even if President Clinton wins in '96, Republicans are on such a roll that they are expected to very likely pick up most of those retiring Democratic seats, meaning that the GOP could hold a solid majority in the upper chamber well into the next century. Indeed, if the Republicans were smart enough to nominate a popular middle-of-the-road candidate like retired Gen. Colin Powell (which, fortunately, isn't likely), this would cause even more problems for Democratic Senate and House candidates.

As I've often said before, political predictions are worth very little, but I've always liked making them, so...Bill Clinton stays at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. next year, but the GOP posts impressive gains in the Senate and the House of Representatives. Not a pretty picture, is it?

On a related note: Candace Gingrich's big brother Newt is reportedly "so worried" that a presidential candidacy by Colin Powell could frustrate the goals of the GOP's 1994 electoral victory that he is "seriously" thinking of entering the fray himself. Would this mean we would see more — or less — of kid sister Candace, America's latest superstar spokesperson for gay rights?

Joycelyn Elders was in town visiting friends last week after having addressed the Sonoma County AIDS Foundation dinner in Santa Rosa. Elders, now back at her old University of Arkansas job, told me that while "I loved it; I enjoyed every minute of it," she has no plans to return to politics.

The controversial, albeit honest, former U.S. surgeon general urged the crowded dinner fundraiser to fight AIDS by working for universal health coverage and preventive education that starts in kindergarten. Elders says prudishness is a "deadly ally" of AIDS and promised that she would "never stop fighting until this horror is over." She urged those in attendance to "make a lifetime commitment to do the same."

Former San Francisco activist, supervisor candidate and friend of many of us, Julianne Malveaux, is now a resident of



Joycelyn Elders

D.C., where she hosts a popular radio talk show and writes a column. Her thoughts on Monday's "Million Man March"? "I'm profoundly troubled by it. If our whole community is being assaulted, why can't we all stand shoulder-to-shoulder? Why exclude women unless you want to send a signal about gender relations?"

Ross Perot's California groupies are getting nervous! They have only until next Tuesday (Oct. 24) to convince a minimum of 39,007 California voters to register with his new Reform Party to make next year's presidential ballot.

Their latest ploy is to convince Republicans to switch their party registration to the Perot party until after Oct. 24. They would then be free to go back to their party if they so desired.

Most think Perot will fail; however, don't be surprised if he makes it — money talks big in California. Also, it shouldn't be forgotten that the Texas billionaire and his followers pulled in more than 1 million signatures (different than changing parties, to be sure) in six weeks to qualify him as an independent presidential candidate in 1992.

Gay rights activists are holding their collective breath but "feeling encouraged" after last week's U.S. Supreme Court hearing on Colorado's Amendment 2, which bars any state or local agency from passing laws to protect gays, lesbians and bisexuals against discrimination. It will probably take months for the Court to hand down a decision.

While pro-gay lawyers arguing the case before the Court said they were "most hopeful" that the homophobic measure would be struck down, some fear the Supremes will send the case back to the lower courts to clarify just what practical effect the broadly worded amendment would have on specific gay Coloradans. In-

deed, the Justices seemed frustrated with vague answers from both sides on just what the amendment means.

Governor Wilson is expected to schedule a mid-December election to replace retiring Congressperson Norm Mineta. Current thinking has it that state Senator Tom Campbell, a moderate, pro-gay Republican, will likely pick up yet another seat for the GOP, defeating Democrat Jerry Estruth for the San Jose-area seat.

Those close to Bill Clinton are saying that John Emerson, the popular LA attorney now Clinton's special assistant for intergovernmental affairs at the White House, will soon return to the state to head the president's re-election committee here.

Supes Susan Leal, Carole Migden and many other SF friends of Sheila Kuehl are among those giving a reception/fundraiser for the Los Angeles assemblywoman, the Assembly's first openly lesbian member (Migden will be next) at the St. Francis Hotel, Thursday, Oct. 26, 6-8 p.m., \$50 and up. Call 864-8523 for more information.

And speaking of gay celebs, actor Dan ("Bulldog") Butler, one of the co-stars of *Frasier*, was presented with the "Dick Sargent National Coming Out Day Award" by castmates Peri Gilpin and Jane Leeves at an LA Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center dinner last week. The busy and very talented Mr. Butler was also the guest of honor at an Oct. 13 NCOD party at Club Universe here.

Friends of Sheriff Mike Hennessy are holding a "countdown to victory" fundraiser/celebration for the popular lawman on Oct. 27, 5:30-8 p.m., Capp Street Project, 525 Second St., \$100 donation, 928-2992 for information.

D.A. Arlo Smith tells me that 215 persons were murdered last year in domestic violence cases, including 81 women killed by their husbands or ex-husbands; 43 women killed by their boyfriends; 13 men killed by their girlfriends; and three who were killed by their homosexual partners.

Dr. Tim Wolfred, journalist Bruce Pettit, HRCF activist Linda Blackmore, Teamsters leader Bob Morales, Matthew Rothschild and Rep. Nancy Pelosi will be honored at the Toklas Lesbian & Gay Demo Club's 23rd Annual Awards Dinner Oct. 25 at the Sheraton Palace Hotel (6 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner; members/\$75, non-members/\$100). Call 241-9913 for more information. I'll see you there. ▼



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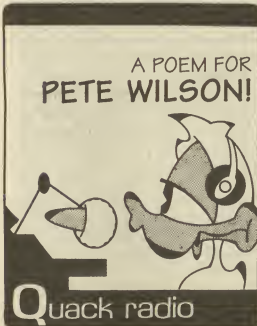
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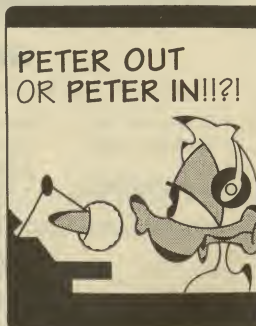
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SAPPHISTICATION

III Literacy

by Beth Elliott

A local queer writer whose work I rather enjoy seems to be back in regular print. Cool. He strikes me as being a kind of gay male Dave Barry (of the column, not the TV show) — wryly humorous, keenly observant. But while I enjoy his columns, I think he stumbled out of the gate with one of his first new pieces.

He riffed on the state superintendent of schools' insisting on a return to basics in the wake of our kids' plummeting performance ratings. I don't know if this column was the occasional face-fall we all take, or if I missed the satirical point, but I read the piece and went,

"Huh?" It was the kind of clueless piece I expected not from him but from, well, let's use the hypothetical example of someone who can bounce from paper to paper, wearing out her welcome at each one, while calling someone who's just signed another book deal a mediocrity. (Just as a made-up example, of course.)

Commentary

In this piece, the writer portrayed a friend going completely hysterical over the pathetic spelling ability of grade schoolers who were nonetheless getting good grades from their teachers on the theory that emphasizing spelling skills would stifle their imaginations. Stifling their imaginations, of course, would result in low self-esteem and prevent these fragile flowers from ever gaining the literacy skills they need for high school diplomas and real jobs. (Of course, we know the cure for that — make a diploma something to which everybody has a "right" whether they can read, write and do math or not. I'm not making this up; this is, once again, from what passes for real life.)

The writer depicted his friend as squeamishly anal retentive, a hopeless case until he saw the light and sent the writer a hideously misspelled love note. In the best (?) traditions of American mass culture, an interest in academic excellence is equated with being prissy and uptight instead of being a fun-loving, red-blooded [your group here]. At least that's what it seemed I was reading, and I hope to God I was wrong.

Quick fix

Does anyone else out there think of self-esteem as something more than a quick fix of instant warm, fuzzy feelings? That it's something you can't pour into children, though you can help them work toward achieving it themselves? As someone who lives in a state where children who don't graduate with the requisite skills for making their way as adults in the late 20th century sometimes end up preying on others for their daily bread, I'd much rather see children gain their self-esteem through being challenged to develop competence.

The controversy over "whole language" versus phonics is based on the notion that children's creativity, and therefore their sense of self-worth, will be stunted forever if their schoolwork is graded on both creative and technical

grounds. Yet what do children most want to be? Grown-up. One of the big kids. Facing challenges and acquiring skills makes them feel grown-up — "Mommy, mommy, look what I can do!" That's real self-esteem.

In parts of the lesbian community, there is an unspoken agreement to guarantee everybody's self-esteem (in the sense every woman can think of herself as just absolutely wonderful, bright and attractive) through mutual mediocrity. If you're a lesbian, you're wonderful, and lesbian get-togethers are opportunities for mutual back-pat fests. People can be habitually unpunctual, borderline rude and uncouth, or even hit on other women's lovers, but no one will lift a finger or say word one to urge a higher standard of behavior — why, that would be a value judgment and might injure someone's self-esteem!

Years ago, a woman I was dating put together an excursion to a mountaintop outside Salinas to watch the Perseids meteor shower (a truly spectacular natural light show). To get up the dirt road and settled before dark, we planned to leave the mid-Peninsula about 2:30 in the afternoon. One of the guests didn't arrive till four, then traipsed in giggling "Hi!" and smiling as though she were the most adorable thing in the world. No apology, of course. Everyone but me tried to make the organizer feel like a ninny for worrying about time — or the reckless driving that followed this silly mood's spreading.

Self-respect: earned

Self-esteem, like respect, can only be earned. Teaching pride in group identity can only inspire self-esteem, not guarantee it. And sometimes losers hide behind group identity to boost their so-called self-esteem by tearing down someone who dares to achieve instead of blaming lack of achievement on some -ism or other. (Not that oppression doesn't damage people — it does. However, success still equals opportunity plus hard work; it doesn't come from feel-good warm fuzzies alone.)

Oakland writer Gary Rivlin's new book is about a teenager whose mother finessed him into a better school district. He was proud of being accepted into advanced classes. But other kids hassled him for threatening their self-esteem by earning his own (by rising above his station?). He let his grades drop so he could be "normal" — and is now doing time with two of his "friends" for murder.

Group pride through mediocrity — it's so funny I forgot to laugh. ▼

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Six breast cancer awareness and early detection centers will be set up around the city through the end of October for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, some with mammogram services available. Interested parties should call individual centers for information.

The programs are sponsored by a number of organizations, including the SF Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program, San Francisco Public Health Department, American Cancer Society, En Accion Contra el Cancer, and Breast and Cervical Cancer Information and Services:

3850 17th St., near Noe
October 24, 9 to 11 a.m.
(415) 487-7500

Maxine Hall Health Center, 1301
Pierce St. at Ellis
October 19 and 26, 2 to 5 p.m.
292-1300

1490 Mason at Broadway
October 19 and 20, 9 a.m. to noon,
1 to 4 p.m.
October 21, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
705-8500

1351 24th Ave., near Irving
October 25, 12:30 to 4 p.m.
753-8100

Potrero Hill Health Center
1050 Wisconsin at Connecticut
October 19, 10 a.m. to noon
October 26, 1 to 3 p.m.
648-3022

Southeast Health Center
2401 Keith at Armstrong
October 19 and 26, 9 a.m. to noon,
October 25, 2 to 5 p.m.
715-4000

—Mary Ann Swissler

USA's First Gay Civil Rights Bill Passes Wisconsin Assembly

by Mary Ann Swissler

This week in 1981 the nation's first sexual orientation civil rights bill prohibiting discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations passed the Wisconsin state Assembly 49 votes to 46.

"I think the biggest challenge we had was defining the terms of the debate," Wisconsin legislator David Clarenbach — who collected votes for the measure over a period of eight years — told the *B.A.R.* "We had to make certain that the question was not whether homosexuality was good or bad, or if it ought to be encouraged or discouraged, or sinful or not sinful. But whether bigotry and discrimination could be tolerated against any group in our society. And when that is the question that is posed, the answer is a resounding no that we cannot tolerate bigotry and discrimination."

Commentary

Ironically, it was the backing of the Catholic Church which ultimately gave the legislature political shelter they needed to vote for this bill. "Catholics were the crowning blow," he said, adding that it took eight years of "trench warfare" convincing smaller church councils throughout the state to issue statements of support. The Archbishop eventually took the unprecedented step of writing a letter to the Legislature urging them to pass the bill. "We knew he couldn't go out on much of a limb, unless he had the underpinnings of support." The Lutheran Church also supported the measure, he said. "We even had the Wisconsin Baptist Convention pass a resolution, specifically endorsing the bill."

On October 23, 1981, the bill passed. Clarenbach told the *Bay Area Reporter* it was only successful because he waited until he had a sufficient number of votes before introducing it.

"I took a lot of shit for that from other activists" who wanted to take a less cautious road, said Clarenbach. "It was a methodical, step-by-step process."

History has been repeating itself for the Midwesterner: when Clarenbach arrived in Washington, D.C. early last summer to head up the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund, his appointment set off a debate within the gay and lesbian community, despite more than 20 years of activism in his hometown of Madison.

Critics pointed out that while



GLVF's David Clarenbach

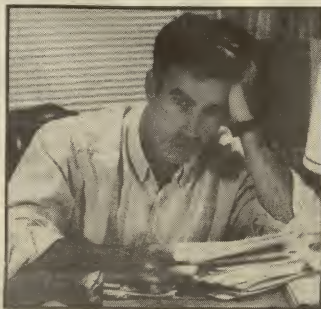
the chief purpose of The National Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund is to encourage gays and lesbians to run for elected office as exactly who they are, Clarenbach has only been out to the world for less than a year. During his stellar career working as a leading public offi-

cial — he was a two-term County Supervisor and a member of the City Council before serving 18 years in the State Legislature, the last ten years as Speaker Pro Tem — Clarenbach never once mentioned to the voters that he had been involved in long-term, committed relationships with both men and women.

However, he told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "There was not a single member of the legislature who did not know that I was gay and involved in a long-term committed relationship." It was just the public he didn't tell.

"In 1972, no one ran as an openly gay official," Clarenbach insisted: that was two generations ago, and "light-years ago in terms of the gay civil rights."

"In 1972 you would be laughed off the ballot [as an openly gay candidate], in 1995 you risk your political future by not coming out. If I were running for public office today, I would consider it a political liability to not be completely honest." ▼



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Dole

Continued from cover

David Greer, a spokesman for the gay partisan group, said that would not be a problem.

"There won't be a check coming any time soon," Greer said. The group also sent \$1,000 donations to presidential hopeful Senator Arlen Specter, R-Pa., and California Governor Pete Wilson, who has withdrawn from the GOP race.

Greer said a positive outcome was Dole's rejection of discrimination, apparently including homosexuals.

"He stated there should be no discrimination for all Americans. But because he let his campaign do this, the senator is in a very difficult situation," Greer said.

"Now he's flip-flopped and the far right is going to be angry." ▼



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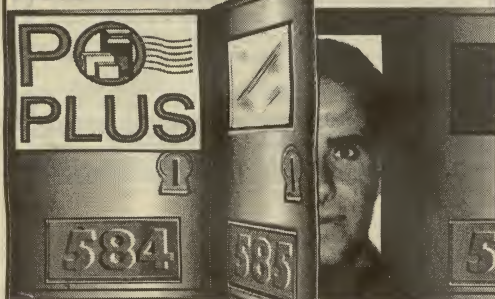
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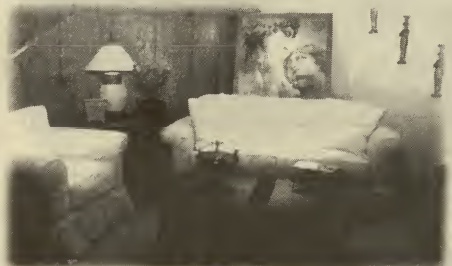
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GLAAD

Newsweekness

by Al Kielwasser

A day before arguments began in *Romer v. Evans* — the Amendment 2 case — *Newsweek* magazine had already made a major gaffe. In the magazine's October 9 issue, David A. Kaplan provides a one-page overview of the Supreme Court's calendar for the 1995-96 term ("This Court's Not on TV"). Although brief, Kaplan's references to Amendment 2 are troubling. He uses imprecise terminology, makes defamatory characterizations, and completely misrepresents the substance of the amendment.

Kaplan reports that, "over the next nine months, the justices will take on gay rights. ... He also refers to the Amendment 2 case as "the gay-rights case," which is being defended by "gay-rights groups."

Since gays do not (yet) possess any rights that aren't already (supposedly) guaranteed to every citizen, the category of "gay rights" is rather imprecise. In fact, because most queers actually have far fewer rights than most heterosexuals, it would make more sense — or at least it would refer more accurately to reality — if commentators discussed the many appalling "gay non-rights" that exist in our homophobic society.

While it would be nice if *Newsweek* and other magazines began to use terms like "gay civil rights" or "equal rights for gays and lesbians," this lack of precision is hardly the most serious problem in Kaplan's article.

Kaplan observes: "Gay-rights groups hope for a victory as significant as *Brown v. Board of Education* was to blacks in 1954." "Even so," he announces, "the case won't be as significant as others that come before the court. The new term likely marks the beginning of a judicial period when

single issues like abortion or gay rights no longer will dominate."

Kaplan's dismissive tone is as insulting as it is misinformed. The Amendment 2 case speaks to justice, liberty, and equality — our nation's most basic principles. It speaks as well to prejudice, intolerance, and greed — our country's most common pitfalls. This case is hardly limited to "special interests" or a "single issue." Amendment 2 threatens all of us.

Kaplan suggests that "single issue cases" are somehow less important than those that concern the "whole" nation and involve the interests of "everybody." It appears, however, that he might be confusing "everybody" with "himself."

There is, unfortunately, a tendency amongst heterosexual men (especially white heterosexual men) to view only their own interests as global concerns. Characterizing the concerns of queers (*Romer v. Evans*), women (*Roe v. Wade*), and people of color (*Brown v. Board of Education*) as "special interests" is a media bias that must be rejected as racist, sexist and homophobic.

Perhaps the worst part of this *Newsweek* article involves Kaplan's failed definition of Amendment 2. He writes: "The gay-rights case, to be argued Oct. 10, gives the court its first chance since 1986 to rule on the constitutional rights of homosexuals. The issue: Colorado's Amendment 2, passed by voters in 1992, which prohibited the state government or municipalities from passing special protection for gays. The justices have to decide if that kind of exclusion denies gays 'equal protection.'"

Kaplan is shockingly wrong. Amendment 2 has nothing to do with "special protection for gays." Instead, the language of the Amendment would expose lesbians, gays and bisexuals to special persecution. Kaplan fails to grasp this point, even though he appears to understand (almost) that the legal issue before the court is whether or not such legislation violates the "Equal Protection" clause of the United States Constitution.

By way of contrast, for example, *USA Today* ("Across The USA," September 26) reported: "U.S. Supreme Court Justices will hear arguments Oct. 10 on why Amendment 2, which says gays cannot be protected from discrimination, should become part of the state constitution. ..."

Newsweek's definition is not merely wrong in what it says, but also in what it does not say. Kaplan never explains that Amendment 2 would effectively prohibit lesbians, gays and bisexuals from having any minority status or "claim of discrimination." He does not mention that, if Amendment 2 is not ruled unconstitutional, Colorado citizens will be fired from their jobs, evicted from their homes, and kept out of their schools — simply because they are queer. There is nothing particularly "special" about the right to food and shelter.

Kaplan's use of the phrase "special protection" is most disturbing because it represents a direct capitulation to the campaign of misinformation being waged by homophobes. The concept of "special protection" or "special rights" was invented by these bigots to promote hate legislation that, in fact, denies equal rights and promotes special persecution. The hate-mongers have succeeded in putting their Big Lie — unchallenged, and intact — into the mouth of an "objective" reporter, writing for one of the nation's most widely-read newsmagazines.

Let *Newsweek's* editor know that one of his reporters is parroting homophobic lies. Contact Richard M. Smith, Editor-in-Chief, *Newsweek*, 251 West 57th Street, New York NY 10019-1894, fax 212-445-4120, e-mail letters@newsweek.com.

Diesel dykes

Over the past few months, the Diesel Jeans & Workwear company has produced several, high-profile print ads featuring homoerotic imagery. The company's latest ad — for "Diesel Shades" (sunglasses) — bleeds across two full magazine pages with a photograph of women on the verge of a passionate kiss. Dressed in stylized nursing costumes and sporting bright red lips and fingernails, the couple strikes a colorful lesbian pose. Yet, it is the sort of pose that can appeal to queers ... or to straight men, and their (literally) cock-eyed belief that lesbian sex exists to service male pleasure.

Significantly, however, the women in Diesel's ad are actually wearing the product being sold. They are not being used as mere props, intended solely to attract a straight male gaze toward discount machine guns or athletic supporters.

In another recent ad, Diesel clothing is hung upon a number of colorful characters. At one end of the scene, a group of women is ogling a scantily-clad man. At the other end, we see two women who are clearly more interested in each other. This amorous couple pays absolutely no attention to the stud across the way, and their complete disinterest forms the focal point of the ad.

Last month, Diesel also featured two gay men in ads that mimicked a well-known World War II photograph. The men, retro-dressed in 1940's sailor suits, were shown hugging and kissing in front of their ship.

Each of these advertisements is open to various interpretations, some less affirming than others. However, one thing is clear. Given Diesel's eruption of homoeroticism, and the fact that some of these ads have appeared in publications like *Out* magazine, the "Devil Jeans & Workwear" company has become a likely target for right wing wrath.

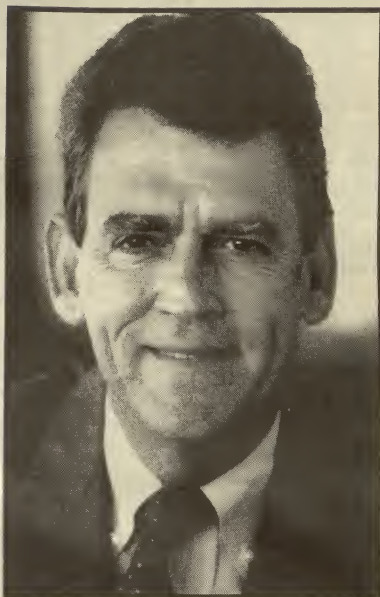
Send supportive comments to Diana Loguzzo, Diesel Jeans & Workwear, Diesel USA, Inc., New York NY 10018, tel. 212-575-8222, fax 212-944-0915.

Media briefs

* MULTI/MEDIA ... The first annual Multicultural Film/Video Festival takes place December 15 - 17 in San Francisco. The festival is sponsored by the Bay Area Multicultural Telecommunications Association (BAMTA) and the Bay Area Media Advocacy Coalition (BAMAC). For more information, contact Tom Morse (BAMAC, tel. 415-541-0102) or Humberto Cintron (BAMTA, 2655 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco CA 94109, tel. 415-346-8098, fax 415-346-8098). ▼

To notify GLAAD/SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage, or to request GLAAD membership information, please call our 24-hour Hotline (415-861-4588) or write to the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco CA 94103, tel. 415-861-2244, fax 415-861-4893, e-mail glaadsfba@aol.com, URL <http://www.gaytrek.com/gaytrek/glaad.html>.

From the front lines of the fight against AIDS, two pioneers in HIV/AIDS treatment tell the urgency of electing **WILLIE BROWN** Mayor:



MARCUS CONANT, MD

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"When I first went to Willie Brown in 1982 with news of the impending AIDS epidemic, he responded boldly and decisively. He used his power to force ultra-conservative Governor Deukmejian to provide the nation's first state funding for AIDS care and prevention. In 1990 he secured \$13 million in state funding for California's only AIDS Research Center, at San Francisco General. In a crisis, Willie Brown KNOWS what to do, and he DOES it!"

"Today we face an even more urgent crisis — the threat of devastating health care cutbacks. More than ever, we need Willie Brown's leadership, experience and skill to protect and expand the HIV/AIDS care we need in San Francisco."



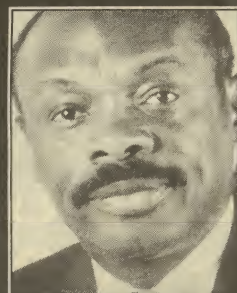
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"My everyday experience underscores the urgency of electing Willie Brown Mayor. In the AIDS Ward at San Francisco General Hospital we struggle every day to provide the highest quality care while our public health care system is being dismantled around us. At San Francisco General, we have cared for more than 5,000 men and women who have died of AIDS. I dread the possibility of not being able to provide the same level of care to future patients — closed clinics, longer waits for appointments, understaffed wards."

"We need a leader in City Hall who has the commitment and skills to secure the resources we need to do our job. Survival is at stake here — for individual people in fragile health as well as for our whole health care system. More than any other candidate, Willie Brown inspires my confidence that San Francisco can and will weather the oncoming storm, and that's why I urge you to join me in supporting him for Mayor."

San Francisco's HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment services are under attack from Washington and Sacramento. And the percentage of people of color and young people with HIV/AIDS is increasing. More than ever, we need the strongest and most effective fighter on our side. That's **WILLIE BROWN**



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SJ Conference Focuses on Helping Gay Youth

by Marv. Shaw

Over 70 people from the Bay Area - ranging from a 14-year-old high school freshman to a seventy-ish retired public school administrator - shared information calculated to make the lives of young gays and lesbians more positive Saturday, October 7 at the Billy De Frank Gay and Lesbian Community Center in San Jose.

The conference, entitled "Helping Our Students Out," was an activity of the Santa Clara County Task Force on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Youth, concentrating on youth concerns, school support groups, HIV prevention, sensitivity training, and the East Side Advisory Board, which related lessons from that school district's efforts to date.

Keynoting the session was Pam Walton, producer of the video *Gay Youth*, which illustrated the stark differences between the stories of Gina Gutierrez, whose family adjusted lovingly to her coming out; and Bobby Griffith, who took his own life in despair at the oppressive misunderstandings of his own family, plus the non-acceptance of the community. Also, Gina's courage was well-illustrated by showing her determination to be publicly gay, despite the sometimes gross hostility of her Los Gatos High classmates.

Walton linked the video to her own life and career, with vivid recall of her own school years, her chafing dissatisfaction at being

closeted in a teaching career, and her decision to reorient her life into video production, with *Gay Youth* being the second product.

Walton also said she was partially inspired by the "Report on Youth Suicide" that was started during the Reagan administration - but subsequently shelved during the Bush administration when those responsible realized that much of the contents contained poignant gay information that the Republicans first branded bogus, then simply shut up without endorsement.

'The only dumb question ...'

Sensitivity training workshops were given by Linda Schilling and Grant Peterson; the fact that it was offered in both the morning and afternoon workshop sessions stressed its importance.

Schilling discussed the programs promoted in Santa Clara County, and detailed the kind of training that speakers received. This preparation stressed a reliance on what it is like to be gay, using the pattern derived from that of the Lambda Institute of San Francisco, but altered from male-only to female-inclusive. Emphasis was placed on encouraging the student audiences to "ask anything!"

"The only dumb question is the one not asked," she stressed.

Role reversal from questioner to student audience member completed the training.

Peterson, who has had many

different roles in his career in education, and who came out to his colleagues years ago, discussed his participation in sensitivity training in Alameda County, especially at Logan High School in Union City. He said a gay youth panel is vital in preparing teachers, counselors, and administrators to become helpful to gay teens.

The "Youth Concerns" workshop was also offered in both the morning and afternoon sessions. Major problems were quickly brought out. The first goal, immediately cited, was to overcome the sense of isolation faced by gay and lesbian teens. Then, eradicating the stereotypes - "gays look alike," "lesbians are ugly," "all they think about is sex," etc. - was seen as a goal to work for.

Of course, other problems that are usually much closer to gay youth's daily life were also cited as pressing: conquering substance abuse; avoiding HIV infection; and, perhaps most dangerous, the depressive tendency to consider suicide as a way out of the disturbing condition of being gay.

Andrew Gans, a co-facilitator for the task force, outlined some signal achievements since the effort began in 1993 and was reformed in 1994 including the introduction of issues to those schools that provide resources for education and the improvement of the lives of gay teens; an "out-reach to the invisible" that contacts gay teens who haven't had an

Continued on page 26

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Curriculum

Continued from cover

terviews with the Bay Area Reporter

California State Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl, whose office provided support for the lobbying effort begun in 1992 by The P.E.R.S.O.N. Project (formerly known as Project 21), and other groups, told the *B.A.R.* that the optional status of health classes in most California school districts could water down the potential impact. But it's still definitely a win.

"I wish, of course, that all students would come into contact with this curriculum, minimum as it is," she said. "But it appears that only some students in our state will be allowed to consider the variety of health issues that they face. I would praise the board for adopting this curriculum in the face of the adversity for even considering it."

"I think it's always a victory not only for gay and lesbian students and the community statewide whenever a small step is taken to allow our community to be more visible. I think it's also a victory in general for students in the state to be allowed to learn about the diversity and variety about people in the state. Ignorance should not be the basis of our education system."

It's norm!

Realistically, education about gays and lesbians has already become the norm among most of California's 800 health teachers throughout the state, despite the constant pressure placed on school boards by right-wing groups, said Ric Loya, Vice-President of California Association of School Health Educators, and a health teacher at Huntington Park High School, located in Southeast

Los Angeles. He said he spends a whole day on it, and again during a lesson on teen suicide. "You can't avoid the subject," he said, "even if you want to."

Loya said that the most recent statistics, from 1990, revealed that just 60 out of 1,200 California school districts required health class. "That sounds worse than it is," he added, since the two largest in the state, Long Beach and Los Angeles Unified School Districts, both have a health class requirement, and more districts could be added. "We're optimistic for the first time in a long time," he said.

Former teacher and current San Francisco Supervisor Tom Ammiano recalled that in 1992, when he testified on behalf of a gay-inclusive health curriculum as president of the San Francisco Board of Education, even the conservative members of the state board were horrified as Lou Sheldon hammered away at homosexuals for being nothing but eaters of feces. As the next speaker to follow Sheldon, Ammiano cracked the joke, "I feel like I have to wear my goulashes," causing even the Deukmejian appointees to laugh.

With the McGraw Hill-Glencoe package, said Ammiano, "What they finally got was a small thing - but it's the right step. It's an acknowledgment, we have something to hang our hats on, and we can proceed. It's the old story of oppression: they try and wear you out."

"The interesting thing is that as we advance in technology, textbooks will not be as important," and equal emphasis should be placed on providing gay-inclusive software and videos, he said. "Textbooks," he predicted, "will be a backup."

One way to ensure that gay and lesbian issues reach the classroom is teacher training, and for gay and lesbian parents to go to school board meetings, he said. ▼

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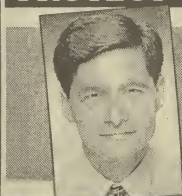
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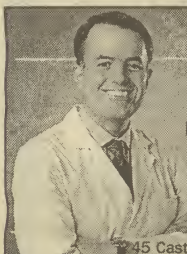
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COMMUNITY NEWS

The B.A.R. Interview

Willie Brown

by Mary Ann Swissler

Mayoral candidate Willie Brown is clear that, despite endorsements from every major gay and lesbian political organization in town, he isn't taking the gay vote for granted. In fact, he told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "I don't take for granted that I will get the bulk of any particular vote."

"I think the endorsement gives me the credibility, gives me the access to make my pitch" about his background in gay politics, which stretches back to the 1960s, when he was the first California legislator to propose decriminalizing sodomy.

"I plan to work for each and every vote" cast by lesbians and gays, he said.

Although there are several San Franciscans who say they have heard Brown remark that gays and lesbians "are not ready" to lead themselves, the candidate steadfastly denies ever having said it. "I got the first AIDS funding bill [passed]," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "so I'm not going to let anyone discredit me; that somebody is doing a disservice to me and my effectiveness on the issue of dealing with the issues affecting gays and lesbians."

His ideas on HIV/AIDS in the city include more and better prevention programs in the schools, holding a worldwide conference on AIDS in San Francisco, and paying more attention to the growth rate of HIV/AIDS among people of color.

"And finally," he said, "the mayor doesn't fully understand the advocacy role he needs to play in pursuit of the research dollars from the major pharmaceutical houses of the world that could be very easily acquired on an expanded basis at UC Medical Center as well as SF General."

Brown also spoke at length about problems affecting youth these days, including the queer youth - many of whom are run-aways - who have always been a



Photo: Marc Geller

Look who's talking: Former Assembly Speaker Willie Brown chats up potential supporters on Castro St. during June's Pink Saturday festivities.

big part of the picture in San Francisco youth programs.

If he were mayor, Brown said, "There would be an emphasis in pushing the old-line gay and lesbian organizations to devote some of their resources exclusively to gay youth."

He told the *Bay Area Reporter* that San Francisco needs to return to the network of youth centers so prevalent in his day, which he said formed bonds among restless teenagers, the neighborhoods, and businesses.

"There was an alternative for youth to any criminal conduct," along with dispute resolution mechanisms - "and without any formality to it."

Youth organizations exist in San Francisco, he acknowledged, adding that they need to be put to better use, and the city government ought to work in partnerships with the schools.

Brown also discussed housing issues, saying that the supply of city housing projects must be re-

placed, and that the replacement must represent the diversity of the city.

"You cannot have a successful public housing program in any city," he said, "unless you get away from the idea that you're institutionalizing poor people in one locale." The mayor can start by supplying greater stability within the Housing Authority, which has gone through three directors since 1991, he said. "Clearly that has created instability within that operation," he told the *B.A.R.*

Further, he said, "What I intend to do - no matter with or without what they do at the federal level - is to have a \$100 million bond issue that will be devoted to housing. That bond issue and the proceeds from it will primarily be used by the public-private partnership involving the community-based housing organizations."

"Clearly the specialty organizations that will fulfill the need for AIDS patient-related housing will be a part of that." ▼

Million Men

Continued from cover

tinge of apprehension shone on the faces of those gay men who gathered a half-dozen blocks off the Mall. They girded themselves for the unknown challenge of marching openly into an event orchestrated by the NOI, a group known to be vocally homophobic.

"I'm not here because of Farrakhan, or despite Farrakhan, or to spite Farrakhan," said Derek Livingston, a co-chair of the 1993 Gay Rights March on Washington. "I'm here because we are family and we are in crisis."

Leadership Forum co-founder

Phill Wilson was the inspiration behind this rally. He recited a list of friends and leaders lost "from AIDS and other illnesses" as his reason for marching. "Black men loving black men is a revolutionary act," he said.

"I say, let the revolution begin."

'You are the vanguard'

"What we are talking about today is a revolution in our thinking, a revolution in our way of seeing ourselves, and our relationship to our community at large," said Leadership Forum executive director Keith Boykin.

"You are the vanguard. You send the message of courage and hope to all those who cannot be here. We represent the tens of thousands of black gay men who are assembled on the Mall today and cannot be there openly. We represent them."

"By wearing your African rainbows, by showing your pride, you will send a signal today to those who cannot yet be there but will be there in the future."

The marchers were advised of security precautions, to stay together for protection. "Do not respond to verbal outbursts from others," offered one parade marshal. "They are not our enemies, they are just ignorant." And with that the group exuberantly stepped off for the Mall.

Their chants and placards drew a few rounds of applause but mainly looks of surprise and bemusement from those they passed.

At the National Archives on Pennsylvania Avenue a lone man reacted by tracking them for half a block with harangues that they were "unnatural" and "immoral," pointing his thumbs down. He seemed to protest too much.

Another seemingly straight observer commented to his friend, "Well, if you have a million men they say you'll have 100,000 faggots." There was no malice in his tone; it was a simple acknowledgment of fact.

On the Mall itself, as the group worked its way into a more thickly settled patch of grass, their rhythmic chant of "Gay men of African descent" seemed to clear a way through the crowd. For Boykin it was "the most moving part of the day."

On the stage at the foot of the Capitol the program droned on. Boykin had been told that an openly gay man would speak from it, but nobody identified themselves as such.

"What was going on at the Mall among the participants was so unrelated to what was happening on stage," said Alexander Robinson, president of the black-oriented National Task Force on AIDS Prevention. He called the speakers "background noise" to the main event.

The organizers from the Leadership Forum stayed for the entire program, then returned to Boykin's home for a well-deserved celebration. They had made history. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland

Come Out for Cuba

Queers for Cuba was just one of the groups that marched Saturday, Oct. 14, from the U.N Plaza to Jefferson Square Park at Turk and Laguna sts. to protest the U.S. economic blockade of the island and the Helms amendment that would strengthen it. QFC is also one of the sponsors of *Gay Cuba*, a documentary about the lives of the queer community there since 1959, premiering at the Victoria Theatre Nov. 16. For more information call 282-7231.

Affirmative Action Meeting Attracts Strong Gay Support

by E.G.G. Allen

More than 250 participants attended a meeting about affirmative action at the Cathedral Hill Hotel in San Francisco Thursday, October 5. Somewhat surprisingly, only 40 were African-Americans; organizers believe that holding the meeting in a predominantly white neighborhood may have contributed to the lack of African-American participation - or, they said, perhaps the African-American community feels that it has greater problems than the loss of affirmative action in California universities: unemployment, the rapidly increasing rate of young black men being sent to prison, and the constant attacks on public housing.

Speakers at the meeting were of different ethnic groups, including Hindu, African-American, Asian/Pacific Islander, and His-

panic. Most shared the same concerns about the removal of affirmative action from the U.C. campuses, but as steps to defend affirmative action were discussed, it became apparent that the Asian community was being split apart over the issue.

There was no such split apparent in the gay/lesbian community: although affirmative action, as written, has never included gay/lesbian issues, gays and lesbians of color and their white counterparts showed strong support for it. The strongest, most memorable gay/lesbian speaker was Howard Wallace, co-chair of the Gay/Lesbian Labor Alliance.

As the night went on the participants broke into two groups - students and non-students - and various steering committees were formed of Asians, Native Americans, Africap-Americans, and

Latinos of various age groups and educational backgrounds. The one element that was lacking from the steering committees was gays and lesbians of color.

Lesbians and gays of color voiced concern that white gay males, who theoretically find it easier to "pass" into mainstream white America - if they are willing to disavow their sexual identity, of course - can never fully represent gays and lesbians of color on this issue, since they will not suffer the same economic consequences if affirmative action falls.

The statement was not intended to divide the gay or lesbian community along lines of color, they agreed, but to make white gays and lesbians aware of how serious the loss of affirmative action would be for gays and lesbians of color who cannot hide their race. ▼

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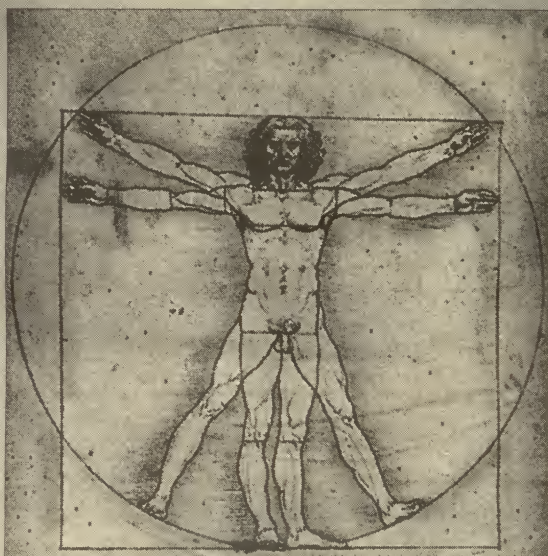
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Uncommon Tea Dance for Lesbian Endowment Fund

by Mary Ann Swissler

It's not uncommon for lesbians to go out and make some luck of their own these days, particularly in the field of fundraising for projects that specifically benefit our community. That's exactly what Uncommon Legacy Foundation, Inc. has been working on for the past five years with grants aimed at lesbian organizations and individuals.

Their West Coast Tea Dance, scheduled for this Saturday, October 21, is part of this fundraising effort to create a national lesbian endowment fund, said Legacy board member Melinda Cuthbert and co-chair for this second annual dance. Last year's Tea Dance raised \$21,000, she said, part of their goal to build a \$10 million endowment fund. The second annual event, at 2020 Jackson Street, will include gourmet dining at Rubicon, a silent auction, and the music of Out of the Blue.

"Even though lesbians might be donors, they're donating to their colleges, to their churches and the traditional organizations," said Cuthbert. Unlike traditional fundraising efforts, Uncommon Legacy is working towards creation of a permanent base to make donations with, so they aren't constantly focused on raising money. "The goal is to have a source of capital for future projects so we're not always exhausting ourselves raising money for operating budgets," said Cuthbert.

She said that 50 percent is given to community-based groups and scholarships, and 50 percent



Tea tippers: (front, l to r) Vivian Shapiro, Janine Brunjes and Andrea Sharrin and (back, l to r) Lory Masters, Lys Marigold, Melinda Cuthbert, Ayse Kenmore, Honey Frisheu, Robin Weingast and Isabelle Kirshner.

goes back to the endowment fund.

West Coast recipients have included Mills College and UC Berkeley for outstanding lesbian athletes, the Audre Lorde Lesbian Health Center in Los Angeles, the Seattle Lesbian Cancer Project, Dyke TV, as well as ongoing support for projects through the National Center for Lesbian Rights.

This year's Bay Area Grant recipients will include The Barbara Girer/Donna McBride collection of Lesbian Literature at the James C. Hornel Gay and Lesbian Center of San Francisco's New Main

Library. Cuthbert explained that this grant will offset the costs of maintaining the collection, including the more than 5,000 items accessible to the public.

The Purple Moon Dance Project, a dance company that presents school-based classes and workshops on homophobia, will be another grant recipient.

The laudable efforts of The Alternative Family Project will be recognized by a grant, so they can continue to provide counseling and support services for lesbian mothers.

Continued on page 24

Halloween

Continued from cover

703-2729 for more information.

You can bring all the cash you want, but if you don't arrive in drag, they won't let you into The High Brow Society's 14th Annual Diva Las Vegas, benefiting the AIDS Legal Referral Panel this year. The site of the event, scheduled to begin at 8 p.m., Saturday, October 21, is the Eureka Valley Center located at 100 Collingwood. But first, go to 155 Diamond and proceed across the field, where your grand entrance will be videotaped. Each ticket comes with a free video of the evening.

Admission is \$35 in advance, and \$40 at the door, including the video, complimentary gambling chips for the Casino gambling, karaoke, dancing, and special guest star Val Diamond.

Tickets will be available through Saturday at Undercover, The Edge Bar, Midnight Sun, and Piedmont Boutique on Haight Street.

For the second year in a row, Trick-Or-Treat For AIDS will be organized to bring goodie bags to hospitalized HIV/AIDS clients. Call Mike Mahoney at 626-5044 between 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. if you want to donate candy, gifts, or cheery costumes for those who will deliver them. "The whole idea came to me because I was a patient in a hospital," explained Mahoney. "I know exactly how it feels when you're stuck in the hospital. It's bringing Halloween to them." Mahoney will also be out on Castro and 18th streets between 1 and 5 on Saturday, October 22, for those who want to bring things by then.

Do it Japanese-style at Nightmare At The Kabuki, beginning at 7 p.m. on Thursday October 26. Officially proclaimed "Berserk Day" by the board of supervisors, the evening will feature Supervisor Tom Ammiano, Joan Jett Blakk, Scott O'Hara, Arturo Galster, Jerome Caja, Ruby Begonia Bidet, Empress Donna Sachet, and Leather Daddy Cornelius. The cocktail reception, "killer" costume contest, "drop-dead" live performances, and rare horror movie trailers, all followed up with a studio print of the cult

movie *Berserk* starring Joan Crawford, will be held at the AMC Kabuki 8 Theaters, 1881 Post Street at Fillmore. Admission is \$25 for the cocktail hour, contest, and film, or \$20 sans the booze. Call the Berserk Hotline at 437-5794 for more information.

Not the band, the club for feminine women called Femme to Femme is holding a Halloween Costume Party on Friday, October 27 in Oakland at The Lake Merritt Hotel, located at 1800 Madison Ave. Femme to Femme is a club for bisexual and lesbian women who get together "for a little help in getting to know each other," says founder Anita Lynn. The emphasis is on communication, friendships, and yes, many couples have formed as a result of meeting there. Activities include "progressive" cocktail parties and camping, and a 40-Plus group meets regularly. Tickets are just \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members. Call (510) 687-1473 for more information.

A tradition begun in the 1970s has returned to San Francisco with The Return of Margo St. James & The Original Hooker's Masquerade Ball, also scheduled for Saturday, October 28 at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale at all Bass outlets for \$45, or \$75 for the Gala VIP reception. An information line has been set up at (510) 869-5030. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the groups WORLD, a women's AIDS organization, and The Street Survival Project. The Hooker's Ball became a Bay Area institution, drawing huge crowds, great music and guest stars. After taking more than a decade off, it will return at the Galleria Design Center, at 101 Henry Adams Place, with a New Orleans-French Quarter theme. A partial list of participants includes: Susie Bright, Tom Ammiano, Mimi=Freed, Peter Coyote, Peter Tork, Lisa Palac & Carol Queen, The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, and others.

Jeff Stryker and Pussy Tourette will headline The Exotic-Erotic Halloween Ball's "Sweet" 16 ball also on Saturday, October 28 at the Concourse Exhibition Center at 8th and Brannan sts. Doors open at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at Bass and at Headline Stores, for \$36.50 in advance and \$40 at the door. ▼

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GUESTS:

Michael Saag, MD
University of Alabama

Robert Yarchoan, MD
National Cancer Institute

Robert Coombs, MD
University of Washington

Jules Levin
National AIDS Treatment Advocacy Project

MODERATOR:

Ronald Baker, PhD
San Francisco AIDS Foundation

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- Disease prognosis and monitoring therapy using viral load tests
- New design concepts for clinical trials
- Individualizing therapy
- Combination studies
- How to study early HIV disease
- Study endpoints

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**Monday,
October 23**

12:00 noon Pacific Time

**Wednesday,
October 25**

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OBITUARIES

Obituary Policy

Obituaries must be typed
and no longer than 200 words.
Please follow normal rules
of capitalization - and no poetry.
We reserve the right to edit for
style, clarity, grammar and taste.

If you're submitting a photo
of the deceased, write their name
on the back. If you include
a SASE for the photo's return,
write the person's name
on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries
is Monday at 5 p.m.

D'Wayne Gilmore-Monge

March 4, 1960 - Oct. 14, 1995

After celebrating his partner's birth-
day, D'Wayne passed away Saturday
morning, Oct. 14, at his home in Pacifica.
We are all saddened by his death as
well as relieved to know D'Wayne is no
longer in pain.

D'Wayne leaves behind his lover,
Brian; two children, Duke and T.J.; his
parents, Beverly and Bill Smith; a
brother and sister-in-law, Bret and Mary
Smith; two cousins and their spouses,
Melody and Morris Holland and Susan
and Alan Schweter; not to mention all
those people D'Wayne has touched the
hearts of.

May he always be remembered for
his contributions to gay society. Those
include Castro Computers and CCBA,
among others.

Funeral arrangements have been set
for Thursday, Oct. 19, at St. Aidan's,
101 Gold Mine Dr. (at Diamond
Heights Blvd.), 5 p.m. All are welcome.

To my love D'Wayne/Know that
you are missed by many/You will al-
ways be in our hearts and our thoughts/I
love you and I miss you - Brian

Will Gallo

June 28, 1959 - Sept. 25, 1995

"The leaves I loved to see have all
left the tree, but the river, my river, still
flows on," and

with that thought,
our friend passed
on Monday, Sept.
25. Will will be re-
membered for
those gorgeous
ice-blue eyes, that
cutting wit and his
ra-pier-sharp
tongue! Will lived
by the words of
Alice Roosevelt:
"If you have noth-
ing nice to say
about someone, come sit next to me and
let's talk!"

Will had many friends in the area,
but his mainstay was his good buddy
and roomie, Jimmy Mason, who was
there for him to the end.

We would also like to thank the staff
and volunteers of Coming Home Hos-
pice for their loving touch and support
through these times.

Neil Gnabaski

May 12, 1961 - Oct. 9, 1995

Neil left this world peacefully on
Monday, Oct. 9. His struggle with AIDS
has ended, and in his final hours, he
was comforted by his devoted par-
ents and loving
sister Colleen.

Neil's buoy-
ant spirit and easy-
going charm car-
ried him through
his adventures and
endeared him to us
all. He loved car-
toon, rock and
roll, and traveling

across the country visiting family and
friends. He spent many happy years liv-
ing in Forestville, where he served the
AIDS community volunteering at Food
for Thought.

Neil is survived by his parents, four
brothers, three sisters, and a loving ex-
tended family and circle of friends. Do-
nations in Neil's name may be made to:
Food for Thought, P.O. Box 1608,
Forestville, CA 95436.

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Donald Kern

Oct. 22, 1958 - Aug. 29, 1995

On August 29, Donald Kern passed
away from AIDS at the hospital with
Howard, his partner,
and Jim, his
best friend, at his
side.



Don was
born and raised in
New York City. He
received his un-
dergraduate de-
gree in education
from Hunter and
his master's in
psychology and
school administra-
tion from USIU
and Cal-State Hayward, respectively.
After doing time as a elementary
teacher in Harlem and Bedford-
Stuyvesant, he moved to Fremont in
1987. There, he worked for the FUSD
as an elementary school teacher until
early 1995. In 1989, he moved to San
Francisco with his partner.

Don was well-respected in the com-
munity. He founded the Clipper St.
SAFE group, and was a member of a
number of community preservation
groups like The Victorian Alliance and
Friends of Noe Valley. He also did vol-
unteer work for the Landmarks Board.
In addition, he and his partner opened a
successful B&B in Noe Valley in 1992.

He is survived by his partner,
Howard Johnson, and his father, Donald
Kern of Sebastian, Fla. He loved the
people around him, and his passion was
to make the world a better place. He
will be missed by many, but forgotten
by none.

Charlie Smith

Dec. 9, 1943 - Oct. 8, 1995

Charlie Smith died peacefully Oct.
8 surrounded by friends. He had liver



cancer. Survivors
include close
friends Richard
Bernier, Diane
Pritchard, cat Gra-
cie, sister Fran,
niece Melissa, and
parents Mabel and
Chuck of Jack-
sonville, Fla.

Charlie
graduated from
Eckerd College
and came to the
Bay Area 25 years
ago to manage the American Conserva-
tory Theater Box Office. He basked in
the fog of the '70s in San Francisco and
settled into a job at the Employment
Development Department, from which
he retired earlier this year.

Charlie did manage to get to the
symphony for Beethoven's Ninth be-
fore his last trip to the hospital. He will
be buried in Jacksonville...and missed
in San Francisco.

James Dempsey Washington, Ph.D. (Talib Rasul)

Oct. 24, 1952 - Oct. 4, 1995

A survivor of HIV disease for 11
years, James died at home in San Fran-
cisco. The first-born of A. Hakeem
Rasul and Shona Washington of
Philadelphia, Penn., James received his
B.A. from Indiana State University, his
master's from SF State University and
his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from
Boston University. He served on the
board of SF Suicide Prevention from
1989 to 1992, and was currently a board
member of the National Task Force on
AIDS Prevention. Until his death,
James practiced psychology at Kaiser
Hospital in Oakland; he was also a con-
sulting psychologist at Bayview Mental
Health Services.

James had a unique ability to make
and keep friends throughout the world.
He was a light that will shine in our
hearts forever.

James was preceded in death by his
great-grandmother, Marzella Smith, and
his grandmother, Mary Pratt. He is sur-
vived by his parents; his brothers,
Michael and Hamin; his sisters, Denise
Jefferson and Sally Tunstall; his sister-
in-law, Pam; nephews and nieces; and
his godchild, Patrick Jafid Romero.

A memorial fund has been estab-
lished with the National Task Force on
AIDS Prevention, 973 Market St., Ste.
600, San Francisco, CA 94103.

Dale Ryzak

Jan. 27, 1957 - Oct. 11, 1995

Dale passed peacefully from us at
home and is on his way to a better place.
He was a quiet
man with a loving,
caring heart.



Dale loved
photography, the
outdoors, spending
time in his garden
and watching
Erica Kane. He
once said, "If he
gave me nothing
else, he gave me a
little soul." Once a
reference to music,
it grew more to
mean the way he
touched those who
knew him.

Dale leaves behind his lover of 15
years, Randy Petersen; his sister,
Margo; sisters-in-law, Margaret and
Olivia; nieces, Marina and Satina; fa-
ther, Frank; and brothers, Frank and
John.

I'd like to thank our families and
our extended family of close friends,
co-workers and teammates for being so
supportive.

His spirit has been set free, but his
soul will always be with us. I'll love
him forever.

A gathering of friends will be held
Saturday, Oct. 21.

Chris Ellingson

July 17, 1995

Chris Ellingson, an eight-year resi-
dent of San Francisco, passed away July
17 at University
Medical Center in
Las Vegas, after an
eight-year battle
with AIDS.



Chris was a
member of the
"Rude Fruit"
bowling team and
a credit analyst for
Kransco Toys. For
the last two years,
he had been living
in Las Vegas to be
near family. He
was chosen as a grand marshal of the
1995 AIDS Walk Las Vegas for his vol-
unteer work at Aid for AIDS of South-
ern Nevada.

Chris is survived by his lover of 14
years, Mike Standard; his sister, Cathy
Carrigan; brother, Curtis Sumner; and
father, Roger Ellingson. He had many
friends in the Bay Area and will be
sadly missed. A memorial service will
be held in San Francisco on Oct. 21. For
details please call (702) 457-3425. In
lieu of flowers, please make donations
in Chris' name to Aid for AIDS of
Southern Nevada (702-382-2326).

Henry J. Faber

March 17, 1947 - Oct. 6, 1995

Henry Jacob Faber, a native of Sil-
verlake, Wis., died Oct. 6 at home in
San Francisco of
AIDS-related
complications.



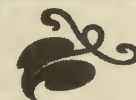
Henry ar-
rived in the Bay
Area via the
Alameda Naval
Station and never
looked back. He
was a popular bar-
tender at Febe's,
the *P.S. Church
Street Station and
the Nothing Spe-
cial. He later as-
sisted his life partner, Randy Fontana,
with his interior design business until
Randy's death three years ago.

Henry loved to travel, whether
around the world or South of Market.
He thrived on putting together grand
dinner parties and group outings, and
was the crux of an extended family who
loved him dearly despite his dramatic
Pisces nature.

He will remain in the hearts of his
extended family: Andrea, Larry, Cary,
Maggie, Stephanie, Ann Adele, Leo,
Terri, Skii and Ray, Louette and Lorna,
Chuck, Bill, the Susans and many treas-
ured friends.

Henry's ashes will be spread on the
island of Maui.

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OBITUARIES

William Kent Story

Nov. 14, 1952 - Sept. 26, 1995

Born in the suburban town of Redwood City, Kent passed away peacefully



at his Guerneville home, which he called "Emerald City." He loved his music, constantly listening to the likes of Mariah Carey, Tata Vega, Jane Oliver and the most incredible group of all time, The Supremes. He was a fierce Scorpio, keeping secrets, perhaps too many. He always felt that he was put on this planet to make sure people were doing okay.

Kent was fortunate enough to find the love of his life, Ted Cook. Together for 10 years, Kent and Ted had a black cocker spaniel, Sparkle, their pride and joy.

Kent is survived by a brother, Lynn of Redwood City; a brother, Lee of Oxford Conn.; a niece, Jenice; and nephews, David and Matthew. He was proud to be Dylan's great-uncle. He is also missed by his safe and sane bud, Patrick Walsh; mother-in-law, Susie Cook; Carly Wood; Javier Aparicio; George Ristau; Larry Washburn; and "Sebastian." A special thanks to the men and women of 5A, whose care and respect will never be forgotten. "See you all later, WORD."

Donations please to Food for Thought, P.O. Box 1608, Forestville, CA 95436. ▽

Michael John Shea, R.N.

Sept. 11, 1951 - Sept. 22, 1995

Michael Shea died quietly at Kaiser Hospital shortly after his 44th birthday,



having "telescoped" twice those years into the last decade. He had become what he valued most: the kind of nurse another nurse would want to have.

Born in Worcester, Mike grew up in Massachusetts and was raised through high school in Leicester. In 1971, after a year in Boston, he arrived in San Francisco and established a household that he maintained for the rest of his life.

Mike's natural bent for health care started him on a trek to his precious R.N. degree, received from City College SF in 1990. Mike work-studied his way through Davies Medical Center, Mill Valley's Hill Haven, an LVN degree from John Adams Community College, Garden-Sullivan and finally to SF General Hospital, where he remained on staff until his final illness.

Surviving Michael is a household of loving companions: James E. Simmons, Jim Fritz and numerous adoptees furred, feathered and finned; his brother, Robert Shea Jr.; numerous friends; and the staff of Ward 4D at SF General. He will be sorely missed by many who never knew his name.

Donations in Mike's name can be made to PAWS or Shanti. ▽

Frank M. Harper

March 30, 1958 - Oct. 13, 1995

Frank Harper died peacefully at home in the early morning hours of Oct.



13, surrounded by his loving family. Born in Fond du Lac, Wis., he attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison and subsequently earned a degree in library science after moving to San Francisco. Until his disability retirement several years ago, he worked at Macy's/San Francisco.

Frank was a kind, fun-loving, outgoing, and thoughtful man, who loved to read, play board games, travel and socialize with his many friends at the local watering holes. He was proud of his beautifully muscled body, his friends and his loved ones.

Frank was preceded in death by his partner, Ken Rother. He is survived by his parents, Fran and Pete Stotzheim; as well as his sisters, Michele and Teeny; and his brothers, Mike and Craig. Frank's cremains will be interred in Wisconsin.

Frank's family requests that any donations be directed to the AIDS Emergency Fund, 1540 Market St., Ste. 320, SF, CA 94102.

A reception in celebration of Frank's life will be held on Saturday, Nov. 11, 3-5 p.m., at the home of Mick Sheppard and John West. Please call Mick and John at 753-3800 for specific information and directions. ▽

Frank Dennie

Sept. 2, 1944 - Oct. 7, 1995

A clean and sober leatherman finally surrendered and moved on to a new



adventure. Born in Staten Island, N.Y., Frank joined the Marines and proudly served at the U.S. Embassy in Morocco and in combat in Vietnam.

After his honorable discharge, he moved to and got sober ('86) in Houston, and later came to San Francisco, where he was a founding member of the Trusted Servants and a director with the ICF. He was proud, too, of having started the first "leather" AA meeting in our community.

Frank retired last year from the law offices of Pettit and Martin and moved to Sonoma County, where he was lovingly cared for by the staff of Henry House, Face to Face and The Network, Dr. Chinh Lei with Kaiser Hospital, and North Coast Rehabilitation Center. Frank will be sorely missed by his brother, nephews and cousins in N.Y., his aunt and uncle in Albuquerque, and many friends near and far. Friends are invited to a celebration of Frank's life on Saturday, Nov. 11, at 2 p.m. at 1839 15th St., SF. Contributions in his name would be greatly appreciated by the ICF, P.O. Box 421862, SF, CA 94142-1862. ▽

Curtis Crowell

October 14, 1995

Curtis Crowell made his transition at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 14.



Curtis moved to San Francisco from Dallas in 1982. He and his then life partner, Mike Carnegie, established Lambda Realty on Gough Street, which they operated until 1987. Curtis also worked during this time as an engineering and management consultant.

After Mike's death in 1987, Curtis continued consulting until 1990, when he became too disabled to continue. In 1992, Curtis established the non-profit organization, Lambda Realty Ltd. (L.L.L.), which provided travel services to people with AIDS. L.L.L. closed in April 1995 due to lack of funds.

Curtis is survived by his lover, Neal Scott; his daughter, Christina Cherie Crowell; his granddaughter, Elizabeth Diane Trevino; his parents, Charles and Jean Crowell; two brothers, Cliff Crowell and Craig Crowell; and a host of relatives, friends and loved ones.

Curtis' wonderful sense of humor and understanding of the human condition will be missed by all who knew him.

Contributions in memory of Curtis can be made to the AIDS Emergency Fund or Home Care Companions.

Services will be held Saturday, Oct. 21, at 1:30 p.m. at the Gazebo, Davies Medical Center.

Good-bye, my friend and lover. ▽

Robert Hamilton Boudreaux

March 20, 1952 - Oct. 10, 1995

Robert Hamilton Boudreaux was born in Monroe, La. He died in Robert Park, Calif. Robert will be missed by his father, Roland Boudreaux; his friends, Eugene and Molly; and co-workers at Le Salon. ▽

Eric Garber

Nov. 25, 1954 - Oct. 8, 1995

Eric Garber, writer, historian and activist, was passionately committed to



gay liberation and ending all forms of oppression. He was a founding member of the San Francisco Gay and Lesbian History Project and board member of the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society. His writings educated many about gays and lesbians of the Harlem Renaissance. Eric's science fiction anthologies and guides uncovered that

genre's gay history. He actively supported and encouraged other gay writers. On the lighter side, he regaled friends with "Tongues Are Waggin'," an ever-changing chronicle of queer public and historical figures.

Eric loved travel, men, books and hemp. Most important to him were his connections with people. He left behind his chosen and biological families: "husband of his heart," Jeff Sunshine; parents, Chuck and Dorothy; brother, sister-in-law and niece, Craig, Lisa and Lane; a family of friends; and beloved pets.

It was Eric's wish that in lieu of flowers donations be sent to the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California, P.O. Box 424280, SF, CA 94142.

A celebration of Eric's life will be held on what would have been his 41st birthday, Nov. 25, 1995. Contact Allan at (415) 469-9264 for more information. ▽

Gregory Lee Good

May 5, 1963 - Oct. 7, 1995

Greg Good passed from this life on Oct. 7, with his lover and friend,



Michael Lewis; mother, Josephine Good; friend, Michael Applebee; and friend, Ted Wigger, at his side. Born in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, Greg then moved with his family to Alexandria, Va., where he graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in 1982. He was proudly self-employed as an independent trucker before moving to Napa in mid-1990. He began working for the Treadway and Wigger Funeral Chapel, even past the point of being able.

He enjoyed country western dancing, camping, traveling, gardening and working on his many cars.

Greg is survived by his lover, Michael E.S. Lewis; mother, Josephine Good of Luray, Va.; father and stepmother, Carlton and Nancy Good of Casanova, Va.; sisters, Angela Dawn Sours of Luray and Vanessa Peck of Casanova; brothers, Jeffery Leo Good of Stanley, Va., and Justin Peck of Casanova; grandparents, Emma Mae and Walter Lee Good of Stanley; and niece and nephew, Tammy Joe Biller and Edward Biller, both of Luray. He was predeceased by his sister, Teresa.

Contributions to the HIV Network (5 Financial Plaza, Ste. 227, Napa, CA 94558) are encouraged.

We miss you greatly. ▽

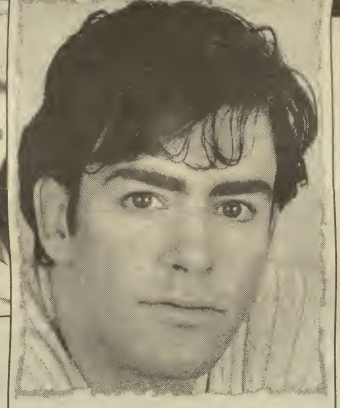
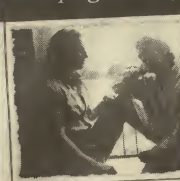
GERALD JOHN ASCIUTTO

On Wednesday morning, October 11, 1995, Jerry was surrounded by his love, Fichet Ong; his father, George G. Asciutto; his mother, Cecilia Alampi; his brothers and sister, Michael, Joseph, Christy, Thomas, Andrew, Francis, Anthony, Matthew and Paul; and his special friend, Ruby. A native of Riverview, Michigan, Jerry continues to love his family and friends.

"God love ya"

Private funeral services have taken place at his home. Donations in Jerry's memory referred to the Haight-Ashbury Free Medical Clinic, 558 Clayton St., SF, CA 94117

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Walter Frank Rowen

June 29, 1945 - October 8, 1995

A truly unique person, capable of touching so many lives in many different ways, and always able to teach everyone something new - that was Walter. He passed away peacefully on Sunday, October 8, due to complications from AIDS.



To the delight of his friends and clients, there was a bit of Mark Twain in Walter. He led a full and varied life, always striving to push things to their limit. By age 20 he had traveled the world, and always delighted in relating the incredible tales of his adventures.

He served as an officer in the Army, then established a successful marketing communications career in New York and Philadelphia. In 1980 he moved to San Francisco, and eventually started his own public relations firm, RCI - even managing to earn canonization as a Saint

by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence along the way.

A real master at motivating diverse groups of people toward common action, Walter was always able to make an impact through his own unique blend of tradition and innovation, combined with impeccable taste, intelligence, professionalism and an irreverent sense of humor. Class and elegance shone through in everything he did. And whatever project he set his mind to, he always managed to make it *fabulously* entertaining.

Plans will be made soon for a cocktail gathering to celebrate Walter's life and share our stories and memories of him. Anyone who would like to participate may leave a message at 510/654-4480 with their name, address and phone number. His friendship and unfaltering support will be greatly missed.

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AR-177

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ACT UP

Ryan White CARE Act of '95: The battle isn't over yet!

by Virg Parks, ACT UP
Golden Gate Writer's Pool
with input from Mike
Shriver, Mobilization
Against AIDS
and Eileen Hansen,
Women's AIDS Network

The CARE Act of 1995 is now in the conference committee that will decide which parts of the Senate and House versions will constitute the final legislation. Although still funded pending re-authorization, the act has officially expired and is funded at five percent less. It is vital that the CARE act be re-authorized ASAP.

It is also important that the final version is the one that will best serve people with AIDS and jeopardize no one.

The politics:

- Mandatory HIV Testing (Again): The House version stinks: it encourages mandatory testing. The Senate version, proposed by Senator Nancy Kassebaum (R-Kansas), would legislate the CDC guidelines regarding testing of pregnant women and newborns, which stress education and voluntary testing — a much more rational approach!

- Cuts To Title I (which provides funding to San Francisco): Our city and other epicenters cannot afford any cuts. However, they may be inevitable. The House version is the lesser of two evils, cutting Title I funds by five percent — compared to the Senate version, which cuts them by seven percent.

- Title II Funding Formula (covers mostly state and rural programs): The House version provides a more equitable distribution than that being offered by the Senate.

- Single Appropriation of Titles I and II means that states would receive a lump sum instead of being earmarked for specific populations and programs. Although there has been some disagreement on this issue, single appropriation could jeopardize vital state programs such as the AIDS Drug Assistance Program in California. Therefore, these advocates prefer the Senate version, which would employ single appropriation for one year. The House version would single-appropriate for the full five years of the Act.

The politicians

- Congressman Henry Waxman is on the conference committee, and is therefore a powerful Californian. He should now support the Kassebaum amendment over his

own. In addition, he should strongly defend California's CARE funding.

- Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Senator Barbara Boxer, and Senator Dianne Feinstein and other Bay Area Representatives are not on the committee, but can still make the opinions of their constituents known through letters and phone calls to their colleagues on the committee.

- Senator Nancy Kassebaum is on the conference committee and is the Republican sponsor of the CARE Act. Call in support of her amendment, which recognizes that most U.S. citizens still believe in rights to privacy, and that HIV education is the best way to reduce adult and perinatal transmission! ▼

All referenced representatives can be reached through the Congressional switchboard. For congressmembers, call 202/225-3121. For the senators, call 202/224-3121.

Tea Dance

Continued from page 20

Two Bay Area students will be among 30 scholarship recipients nationwide: Karla Rosales, a Pan-Ethnic Studies major at San Francisco State University, and Amy Goldman, a social welfare graduate student at UC Berkeley.

Uncommon Legacy has already compiled an impressive list

of support from the lesbian and gay community including San Francisco Supervisor Carole Migden, mayoral candidate and former Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg, lesbian health researcher and activist Kate O'Hanlan, M.D., and award-winning filmmaker Dee Mosbacher. ▼

For more information on the Fall Tea Dance call (415) 775-2020.

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.

"Will selling my Insurance Policy cut into my Social Security or other benefits?"
Page 27

"How can I make sure the information I supply is kept confidential?"
Page 14

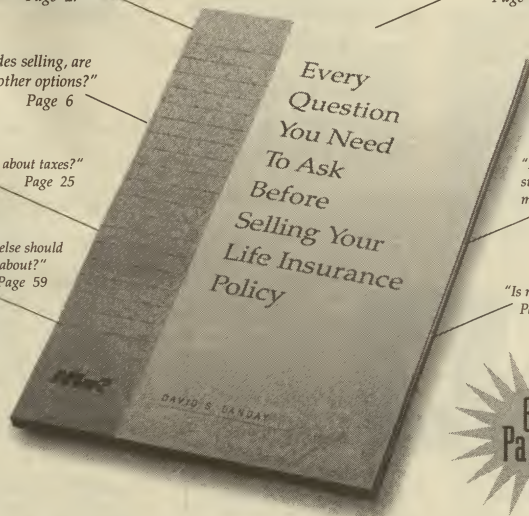
"Besides selling, are there other options?"
Page 6

"What about taxes?"
Page 25

"What else should I think about?"
Page 59

"How can I make sure I'm getting the most money?"
Page 45

"Is my policy salable?"
Page 19



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The answers to these and other important questions are in this new guide. Jay, our local representative, is a trained specialist who can help you understand all your options. Or speak to the author directly by calling 800-932-0050 toll free, Monday through Friday, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. ET.

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Wilson Vetoes Prisoner Compassionate Release Bill

by Mary Ann Swissler

Over the objections of several hundred organizations and individuals – including the Catholic Conference of Bishops – Governor Pete Wilson vetoed a compassionate release bill for chronically ill prisoners Monday, October 16. "I expected this," said Judy Greenspan, director of the AIDS in Prison Project of Catholic Charities.

"We always hope for miracles, but this is not a time for miracles," said Greenspan. "It's a continuation of Pete Wilson's anti-people, anti-prison agenda." This is the third compassionate release bill he has vetoed, she added.

Assembly Bill 1408, which

was introduced by Assemblyman Antonio Villaraigosa, passed both houses of the legislature this year. If signed into law it would have streamlined the application process for terminally ill prisoners who were judged no longer to be a threat to the community.

Greenspan said in a statement to Wilson, "We will not be stopped by your veto and will redouble our efforts to win an expanded compassionate release process for prisoners with AIDS and other terminal illnesses."

With his veto, she said, Wilson displayed "a callous disregard for state taxpayers, who will continue to waste millions of dollars of their hard-earned money incarcerating dying prisoners. ... It will

continue to be difficult to get people released on compassionate release."

Although she could not cite exactly how many prisoners will be affected, the impact will be great, said Greenspan. Every four days one male prisoner with AIDS dies at the California Medical Facility at Vacaville State Prison.

She characterized the alternative to compassionate release, healthcare inside prisons and hospices, as substandard, inadequate, and twice as expensive as in the private sector.

"Hospices should exist," she said, "but they should exist in the context of a comprehensive medical strategy for prisoners, and that does not exist." ▼

...And Compassionate Use Bill

United Press International

As expected, Governor Pete Wilson vetoed a measure Monday, October 16 that would have allowed seriously ill patients to use marijuana to ease their pain and discomfort.

Despite studies touting use of the illegal drug to help some patients, Wilson said the federal government had found no medicinal use of marijuana.

The measure by Assemblyman John Vasconcellos, D-Santa Clara, would have allowed people with AIDS, cancer, multiple sclerosis,

and glaucoma to grow and use marijuana.

Wilson said the bill would also hamper law enforcement efforts to combat drug use and failed to include limits on the amount of marijuana a patient could grow or carry.

"This bill would for all intent and purposes legalize marijuana possession and cultivation in California," Wilson said.

Wilson vetoed a similar measure last year.

Advocates of the medical marijuana bill expressed disappointment with Wilson and said they

would begin circulating an initiative next month to legalize use of the drug.

"This initiative is more about love and compassion than it is about marijuana," said Dennis Peron, director of Californians for Compassionate Use. "We will collect the signatures and end the war on sick and dying people."

Supporters said use of the drug helped certain patients with serious medical conditions. They said marijuana helped AIDS and cancer patients fight nausea and vomiting caused by treatment and MS sufferers ease their pain. ▼



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QUEER WATCH

Lesbian Separatist Chimpanzees

by Michael C. Botkin

Complete the following
phrase, taken from a re-
cent article in the *New
York Times*: "...Males will
often do whatever they can to seize
the resource they covet most: fe-
male sexuality. As for their meth-
ods, we're not talking champagne
and soft jazz. A male may follow a
female around, biting, slapping or
screaming at her until she relents,
as often happens among ____."
Admit it: you thought the missing
phrase was "Republican senators."
Actually, it was "chimpanzees."

The article, titled "Sexual Har-
assment: Why Even Bees Do It,"
is a survey of recent research. It re-
veals that all throughout the animal
kingdom, males pursue females
and attempt to rape them. Young
male orangutans, for example, at-
tempt to rape every female they en-
counter. (So in some species Sena-
tor Packwood's behavior would be
considered normal.) Male sea ot-
ters occasionally drown females
while attempting to rape them.
Horny male bees interrupt females
in their work collecting food in fu-
tile attempts to mount their disin-
terested prey.

It's not a pretty picture, but the
scientists see no mystery as to why
it is so. Every critter wants to re-
produce, but the females have to do
all of the hard biological work of
producing the offspring. They want
to be choosy about who they mate
with. The male, whose contribution
is over in something under 30 sec-

onds, wants to impregnate anyone
and everyone he can, whether they
want it or not. From the genetic
perspective, it doesn't matter how
many females he kills or maims
trying to mate with them, provided
some get pregnant and bear his off-
spring.

Commentary

The article has already been
criticized for "normalizing" sexual
harassment and implying that it's
"natural." And while one should
avoid overgeneralizing from ani-
mal studies to human behavior,
some of the parallels described
can't help but raise the issue of
what is "natural."

For example, some female
monkeys seek protection from
young, aggressive males by joining
the harem of some established
dominant Alpha male. This return
of safety in exchange for slavery
sounds so much like "traditional
marriage" that it's spooky.

Natural sex

However, I'm more intrigued
by some of the other defenses de-
scribed. To return to the article:

"Some females take a feminist
approach, forming coalitions with
other females. This strategy is most
elaborate among the bonobo or
pygmy chimpanzee, in which fe-
males cement their social bonds
with frequent genital-to-genital
rubbing and jointly keep immi-
grant males from intruding on their
group. In at least two cases, coal-
itions of females bonobos have
killed offending males."

In short, we have male-murder-
ing lesbian separatist chimpanzees!
If only Senator Packwood had been
a bonobo chimp, he might have re-
ceived more appropriate punish-
ment for his crimes.

But you can see how this exam-
ple raises all sorts of questions
about what is "natural." From the
scientists' perspective, this behav-
ior is "natural" not only because it
appears in the wild, but also be-
cause it's successful in its goal of
preserving control of the gene line.
They see the males' desire to im-
pregnate anyone as natural and the
females' desire to choose their own
mate as equally natural.

A deeper challenge to current
ideology lies in the chimps' sexual
behavior. The mainstream and
Christian theorists say that it's "ob-
vious" that sex has only one "nat-
ural" use: to produce offspring. Yet
here we have an example in a non-
human primate of sex occurring
where procreation isn't possible. If
sex has a natural "bonding" func-
tion, as the scientists above seem to
assume, then "recreational" sex
can claim to be as natural as pro-
creative sex, which is currently
held to be "not as bad" and "more
natural" than sex for fun and bond-
ing.

Their behavior also has impli-
cations in the genetics of homosex-
uality. Do these lesbian chimps
mate with and bear children from
males of their own choice? You

can't tell from the article. But if
they do, it's entirely possible that
these baby chimps fare better than
the offspring of the heterosexual
female monkeys, because of the
greater safety and security of the
lesbian pack compared to the dan-
gerous life of a lone female subject
to every rapist's whim.

If this is the case, then we have
a way in which homosexuality be-
comes a survival characteristic, one
that actually increases the likeli-
hood of genes being passed on.
This flatly contradicts the conven-
tional wisdom that homosexuality,
by inhibiting reproduction, must
invariably tend to fade into extinc-
tion. If, in some situations, homo-
sexuality produces a survival ad-
vantage, it is only "natural" that it
should persist.

Complete hash

Of course, this little study, if
taken seriously, makes complete
hash of most official theories of the
causes of homosexuality. It is safe
to assume that none of those
bonobo chimps had unresolved
oedipal complexes which resulted
in their lesbianism. Nor is it likely
that the absence of prayers in the
schools or lack of regular church
attendance turned them queer. It
implies, quite clearly, that homo-
sexuality is a natural response to
certain social situations.

Unfortunately, the people who
claim that homosexuality is unnat-
ural will probably never see this
study. They tend not to look at any
research done after 1960 unless
they do it themselves.

It also implies that homosexual
behavior has a social, learned com-
ponent, whether or not it also has
a genetic base. This is scarcely
shocking to most gender re-
searchers, who have assumed this
for some time. But it deals another
blow at those trying to pin down
"the gay gene."

The searchers for the gay gene
say that its discovery will prove
that homosexuality is "natural,"
part of the great compendium of bi-
ological behaviors. It may or may
not prove that; what we can be sure
of, however, is that as soon as it's
identified, somebody will figure
out how to suppress it, if only by
aborting fetuses found to be carry-
ing the tainted gene. Will this real-
ly be an advance for gay rights?

The lesson of the bonobo
chimps is much more upbeat. Ho-
mosexuality is natural not because
it's included in the gene pool
(which it may or may not be) but
because it's a natural response to
many situations.

In any event, the bonobo
chimps can proudly take their place
among Notable Lesbians of the An-
imal Kingdom. They join the whip-
tail lizards (which procreate
parthenogenetically, without the as-
sistance of males, after an episode
of lesbian sex) and the famous les-
bian seagulls. Maybe it's just a
matter of evolution, and after a few
more millennia, even Christian
fundamentalists will have evolved
to the level of the chimpanzee and
be able to sustain homosexual re-
lationships. Let's hope so. ▼

Curriculum

Continued from page 14

offer of help before; and the se-
curing of foster care to young
gays who have run away or been
forced out of their families — a
growing problem.

One of the brightest notes in
the development of the task force
is the lack of opposition — possi-

bly because the effort has been
supported by 16 community
agencies, all of which are either
publicly funded or financed by
generous community contribu-
tion.

Gans said the task force will
consider its work substantially
completed when a complete net-
working of educators, agencies,
and other social service people
has been achieved. ▼

HEALTH & COMMUNITY

ACT UP Golden Gate: meets Tues. nights, 7pm at 592 Castro St. Info: 252-9200.

ACT UP SF: committed to ending the AIDS crisis thru direct action. 1388 Haight St., #218 9417/Info: 522-2907.

AIDS Benefits Counselors: Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free. For intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9545.

AIDS Community Research Consortium conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites located in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials available, call 800 864-ACRC.

AIDS Dementia Unit at St. Mary's Med. Center seeks volunteers. Call Ed Schultz, 750-4976.

AIDS Health Project: Mixed caregivers and women's caregivers groups; drop-in groups for HIV+ and PWA. More info, intake interviews: 476-3902.

AIDS/HIV Nightline provides telephone emotional support and crisis counseling. Volunteers needed: training begins soon. 984-1902.

Baker Places provides housing for people with AIDS who have substance abuse and/or mental health issues. For info or intake call 284-1740.

Bay Positives: Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

Bereavement Groups for family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

Boy + Boy: actions which promote safe sex among young gay and bi men. Tues., 7pm at Stop AIDS Project, 201 Sanchez. 575-1545 x80Y.

California AIDS Ride 3 is looking for riders and volunteers. Call Eddie at 252-RIDE.

Clinica Esperanza, the HIV Clinic at Mission Neighborhood Health Center provides comprehensive bilingual HIV services. Sliding scale fees. 431-3212.

Comprehensive Outreach Project for Asian Substance Abusers: reduced risk of HIV infection thru counseling and treatment referrals. Multilingual. 541-9404.

Continuum HIV Day Services: an adult day health care facility for people with disabling HIV disease, located in the Tenderloin. Call 241-5500.

Deaf AIDS Center at UCSF Center on Deafness offers services to those with HIV experiencing hearing loss or deafness. Counseling, resources, practical support, interpreting services and assisting devices on loan. 476-7600 (TTY) or

476-4980 (voice).

DNCB Support Group: Meets 2nd & 4th Mon. at 194 Church St., 7:15pm. Call 954-8896.

Elipse-Peninsula AIDS Services: Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs. 572-9702.

Extra Positives: Social support group for HIV+ men under 40. Info: 522-9477.

FABRIC, a support/social group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning Asian and Pacific Islander youth 25-under, has drop-in every Tues., 6-8pm. GCHP, 30 Pearl St. 575-3939, x318/x504.

Gay Fathers Support Network of Santa Rosa meets first Sun. of every month, 7pm. Info: Mark (707) 523-6941.

Gay/Lesbian Legal Referral Service seeks gay-sensitive law students as Law Clerks, one 3-hr. shift/week at GLRS of office. Oakland. Info: 621-3900.

Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic: Testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun, 5-7pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 or older, every Sun., 5-7pm. 2339 Durant Ave. at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair accessible, 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

Gay Young Spirit, a new gay young men's social group (18-35) with a focus on spirituality, meets every other Thurs., 7:30pm, in SF. Call 703-7181.

Golden Gate Flyers: gay, lesbian and bisexual plots. 995-4938.

Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics' Drug Detox, Rehabilitation and Aftercare Program, counseling and HIV education, free. Hector, 565-1909.

Halloween 95: CUAV seeks volunteers for Halloween in the Castro. 777-5500.

Healing Alternatives Foundation maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Resource Library. Also Buyer's Club for health products. 1748 Market St. Info: 626-4053.

HIV/AIDS Services at Operation Concern: Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV+ men, men with AIDS/ARC, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St.

HIV and African-American Gay/Bisexual Men support groups every Wed., 6:30-8pm. Brothers Network, 973 Market, Suite 650. 356-8140.

HIV Care offers the latest clinical trials from the AmFAR community-based trial network and private industry, free to participants. Info: Sher Vieira, 353-6215.

HIV Negative Gay Men's Support

Group in the South Bay: meets second and fourth Wed. of each month, 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. Info: Pat Duffy, 408-293-2747.

HIV Positive Drop-in Group: Free, every Tues., 7pm. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

HIV Positive Discussion Groups: provided by HIV Neuropsych and Counseling Program, free, drop-in. Mon. & Wed., 3:30-5pm thru 12/6. 3700 California, 1st fl., Rm. B. 750-6528.

HIV Positive Youth Group, 18-25, meets every Wed., 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. (408) 293-2747.

HIV Testing, Counseling and Education: free, anonymous, by Blow Buddies and the AIDS Health Project. Fri., Oct. 20, 10pm-12:30am, 933 Harrison.

Housing and Client Assistance Program for PWAs provides emergency housing and financial help to residents of San Mateo Co. Mental Health Assn. of San Mateo Co. 368-9989.

Immune Enhancement Project treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8771.

INVENTION sponsors support groups for HIV negative men Tues. evenings, 7:30pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 522-1785.

Iris Center: Women's counseling and recovery services for women with HIV, no/low fee. 333 Valencia St. Info: 864-2364.

Kaiser Permanente's HIV Education Forum to help HIV+ people feel healthier, get more out of life, free for Kaiser Permanente Health Plan members. Tues., Oct. 24, 6:15pm, 2241 Geary Blvd., Conf. Rms A&B. Info: (510) 596-7397.

Lambda Youth and Family Empowerment Program (LYFE): Peer support and mentoring programs for lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender youth. 565-7681.

Legal Services for Children's H.O.P.E. Project provides social and legal services to low-income HIV affected families. Info: 863-3762.

Linea de Ambiente: Information, referral and emotional support for gay, lesbian and bi latinos regarding immigration, HIV, social services, a project of Gente Latina de Ambiente (GELAAM). 243-9534.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center: Primary health care for women by women. Counseling, anonymous testing, prevention education, support groups for HIV+ women. 1748 Market St. 565-7667.

LYRIC Youth Talkline seeks volunteers, especially people of color, transgenders and people under 18. Call Anne or Olga by Sept. 25, 703-6150.

Malaysian Gay and Lesbian Group: a social support group. Thomas, 789-8042.

The Mark Pope Career Counseling Center: a non-profit career counseling agency serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities of the Bay Area. 760 Market St., Suite 962. 296-8024.

MCC Chronic/Life-Threatening Support Group: Every Wed., 1-3pm, at MCC, 150 Eureka St. Free, drop-in. Call 863-4434.

MWM: a rap group for gay/bi Asian Pacific Islander men and their partners. Tues. nights, 6:30pm. Asian AIDS Project, 785 Market, Suite 420. 227-1586.

Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group offers ongoing support groups for the HIV community, partners, friends and family. No fees. Fall volunteer training Oct 14-15. Call Marilyn. 863-1581.

Mothers Organizing Mothers working to change public attitudes and policies on AIDS. Meets 2nd Wed. of every month, 7pm. Call 922-4639 or 221-6651 for information.

NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt seeks volunteers for archiving, data entry, community outreach, sewing, more. Call Mike Moreno at 882-5500.

Pacific Center: Gay and bisexual men's HIV/AIDS support group, Weds., 7pm, 1250 Pine St. #301, Walnut Creek. (510) 939-7711.

Positive Resource provides work referrals to people with HIV/AIDS. To list a job opening or attend an employment opportunity orientation mtg call 928-1448.

Pride & Prejudice: a welcoming group to queer youth meets every Tues., 6pm, at Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market St., Suite 201. Call Nicole at 565-7681.

Project HOPE offers HIV prevention peer counseling to gay, bisexual and transgender men of color. Call 356-8114.

Project Open Hand provides free home-delivered hot meals and free groceries to anyone with symptomatic HIV in San Francisco and Alameda Counties. Various ethnic and restricted diets available, plus free nutritional counseling. No waiting list. Call 1-800-551-MEAL.

Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida provides peer counseling, legal assistance, workshops, therapy and housing referrals, free. 864-7278.

Psychotherapy group for gay men explores issues of intimacy, low fee 12-week process groups. Call for info/intake: Operation Concern, 626-7000, ext. 126.

Q.Action: Work with other queer boys to stop HIV transmission among young gay and bi men. Info: 621-7177.

Qi Gong for Health: \$1 per class. Mon., Wed., 5:30pm. 50 Oak St., 3rd fl. 255-0265.

Qi Gong for People with HIV: \$1 per class. Mon., Wed. 11am; Thurs. 6pm. American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Community Clinic, 450 Connecticut St. Info: 282-9603.

Quan Yin Healing Arts Center Non-profit clinic provides affordable acupuncture & Chinese herbal therapies; treatment for people living with HIV, chronic hepatitis, PMS & other gynecological imbalances. Stop Smoking Clinic. Tues.-Fri., 1-6:30 pm. Sat. 9 am-3 pm. 861-4964.

Radical Women: Business mtg. 2nd & 4th Thurs. of the month, 7pm. Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia St. 864-1278.

re plen ish offers individual and group retreats for professional caregivers in the HIV community. Info: Kay, 864-5140 or write PO Box 410592, SF 94141.

Richard M. Cohen Residence, SF's first assisted-living residence for people disabled by AIDS, needs volunteers (call 558-0503) and household donations (call Wayne Arpel, 282-6209).

Shanti Project's Latino Program: specifically serves Latino men, women, adolescents and children infected with and affected by HIV. Provides help with emotional peer counseling and practical support. For more information, call 864-CARE.

UCSF AIDS Health Project offers: (1) ongoing groups for persons diagnosed with KS; (2) Tues. night support group for women who are caregivers or family members of PWAs; (3) support group for HIV+ African-American heterosexual men. Info: 476-3902.

We Care Bay Area provides emergency financial support to individuals affected by AIDS and other serious illnesses. Requests must be made thru a Bay Area outreach or social service agency. Info: 282-1911.

Weight Watchers Mtg.: Men: 9am Sat., 7pm Wed; Women: 6:30pm, Tues. MCC, 150 Eureka St.

Women's Action Coalition is an open alliance of women committed to direct action on issues affecting the rights of all women. WAC meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 pm (women only), 1360 Mission St., Suite 200. WAC Hotline: 255-6352.

Women's Cancer Resource Center: Support, resource & advocacy group for Bay Area women with cancer, their friends, families & doctors. Provides individual peer counseling & drop-in support groups, newsletter, educational programs, legal workshop & more. (510) 548-9272 or 548-WCRC. 3023 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.

Send Health and Community Listings to: Calendar Editor, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199137

The following person(s) are doing business as SOMA SUPPLY, 123 Townsend Street, Suite 120, San Francisco, CA 94107. SOMA SUPPLY INCORPORATED, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 123 Townsend Street, Suite 120, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed GARY G. GOODWIN, PRESIDENT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Oct 02, 1995.

Oct. 12, 19, 26, 1995, Nov. 2, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199137

The following person(s) are doing business as SOMA SUPPLY, 123 Townsend Street, Suite 120, San Francisco, CA 94107. SOMA SUPPLY INCORPORATED, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 123 Townsend Street, Suite 120, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed GARY G. GOODWIN, PRESIDENT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Oct 02, 1995.

Oct. 12, 19, 26, 1995, Nov. 2, 1995.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 198659

The following person(s) are doing business as A & D APPLIANCE SERVICES, 234 6th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118. ABRAHAM K. ALVARAZ. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Sept. 01, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed ABRAHAM ALVARAZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on September 12, 1995.

Sept. 21, 28, 1995 Oct. 5, 13, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199301

The following person(s) are doing business as FLYING PENGUINS, 360 Guerrero Street, #207, San Francisco, CA 94103. ALAN R. REARICK, 360 Guerrero Street, #207, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 10, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed ALAN R. REARICK. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 10, 1995.

Oct. 19, 26, 1995, Nov. 2, 9, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199217

The following person(s) are doing business as TAMATION MUSIC, 1002 Carolina Street, San Francisco, CA 94107. PAULA ANGELINA FRAZER, 1002 Carolina Street, San Francisco, CA 94107. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 4, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed PAULA A. FRAZER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Oct. 05, 1995.

Oct. 12, 19, 26, 1995 Nov. 2, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199432

The following person(s) are doing business as 1) VANGUARD VISION STUDIOS, 2) XTRA MEDIA, 3450 Sacramento Street, Suite 502, San Francisco, CA 94118; DAVID GLEN-JACKSON SHIELDS, 3737 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed DAVID SHIELDS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 13, 1995.

Oct. 19, 26, 1995, Nov. 2, 9, 1995.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME NO. 972728

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of LAWRENCE MICHAEL LISKA for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that LAWRENCE MICHAEL LISKA has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to MICHAEL STEVENS. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before the Court in Department X-4 on the 6th day of November, 1995, at 9 o'clock AM., of said day to show cause why the application for change on name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 25th day of September, 1995.

Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 198622

The following person(s) are doing business as BOTH COASTS BOOK COMPANY, 882 14th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114; LUCY BERNHOLZ, 882 14th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114 and MARTHA JOAN BERNHOLZ, 325 Columbus Avenue, Boston, MA 02116. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Sept. 11, 1995. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed LUCY BERNHOLZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on September 11, 1995.

Sept. 21, 28, 1995 Oct. 5, 12, 1995.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME NO. 962794

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of MICHAEL ANTHONY GERRARD for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that MICHAEL ANTHONY GERRARD has filed an application proposing that name be changed to ARIEL S. DUNEAU. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before the Court in Department X-4 on the 2nd day of November, 1995, at 9 o'clock AM., of said day to show cause why the application for change on name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 22nd day of September, 1995.

Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1995.

B.A.R. CLASSIFIEDS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 198625

The following person(s) are doing business as B & B TECHNOLOGY, 116 Heartford Way, American Canyon, CA 94589; ED BELTON, 116 Heartford Way, American Canyon, CA 94589 and LORETTA BELTON, 116 Heartford Way, American Canyon, CA 94589. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Sept. 11, 1995. This business is conducted by husband and wife. Signed ED BELTON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on September 11, 1995.

Sept. 21, 28, 1995 Oct. 5, 12, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 198698

The following person(s) are doing business as THE UPSTAIRS MAID, 1755 Franklin Street, #402, San Francisco, CA 94109; MARWICK KANE, 1755 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Sept. 13, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed MARWICK KANE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on September 13, 1995.

1995 Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 198989

The following person(s) are doing business as NEW LIFE PERSPECTIVES, 1876 Market Street, Suite G, San Francisco, CA 94102; GARY LEE SCHULTZ, 583 Green Ridge Drive, #9, Daly City, CA 94014. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Sept. 24, 1995. This business is conducted by husband and wife. Signed GARY LEE SCHULTZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on September 26, 1995.

Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1995.

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199646

The following person(s) are doing business as SUNNYSIDE OF LIFE TRADING COMPANY, 1660 Sacramento Street, Suite 11, San Francisco, CA 94109; Rainer Peter Klimek, 1660 Sacramento Street, Suite 11, San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of September 12, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Rainer P. Klimek. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on September 12, 1995.

Sept. 28, 1995, Oct. 5, 12, 19, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199448

The following person(s) are doing business as CHICKEN BISTRO, 2232 A Geary Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94115; ARSID RODECHANAPHAIRATANA, 437 44th Avenue, #1, San Francisco, CA 94121 and ANOJIT ROJANAPAIAT, 439 44th Avenue, #3, San Francisco, CA 94121. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 16, 1995. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed ARSID RODECHANAPHAIRATANA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 16, 1995.

Oct. 19, 26, 1995, Nov. 2, 9, 1995.

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Southern Exposure

Dream Boy Author Jim Grimsley

by Patrick D. Hoctel

Playwright and novelist Jim Grimsley looks a little bleary-eyed when I show up to interview him at 9 a.m. at his room at Beck's Motor Lodge near the Castro. Perhaps that's not too surprising as he's in the midst of a 20-city tour for his second novel, *Dream Boy*, and today (Sept. 21) is his 40th birthday. Also, it's Leather Pride Week, and the hotel is jumping, so the already weary author didn't get much sleep after his reading at A Different Light the night before.

However, like any unfailingly courteous Southerner, he invites me in and, after a while, allows for the fact that this isn't such a terrible way to be spending your birthday: doing readings and giving interviews. Grimsley has gotten used to both of late — his first novel, the critically acclaimed *Winter Birds*, was a finalist for the PEN/Hemingway Award and won the Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction, and his play, *Math and Aftermath*, recently premiered in the Big Apple.

Currently teaching fiction writing at Emory University in Atlanta, Grimsley is also the playwright-in-residence for The 7Stages Theatre there. On a dreary, gray San Francisco morning, we drink bad hotel coffee and discuss both his life and his work and the sometimes overlap between the two.

* * * * *

Patrick D. Hoctel: There's such a wonderful hallucinatory quality to your writing. I was struck how in *Dream Boy* there are really two levels of existence: reality, often harsh or dull, and the lyrical subterranean life that's happening in the hearts and minds of Nathan and Roy. How do you create such a bipolar world?

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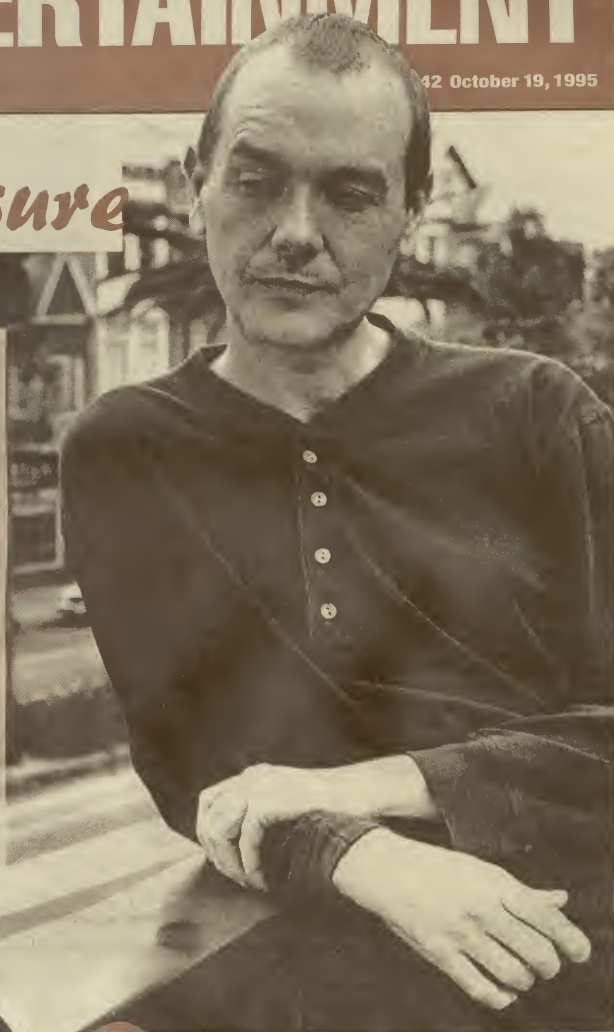


Photo: Rick Gerhart

Birdie-Bob Watt and
Leigh Crow
in *Quiz Bang*



Quizzing the Queers

Questions About Judy's Shoes and Sodomy Laws Make Quiz Bang Hottest Quiz Show In Town

by Chad Jones

All the thrills of a game show and all the camp of, well, a game show combine to make *Quiz Bang*, "America's gay friendliest game show," one of San Francisco's most unique theater experiences. With a drag "quiz master" and a drag "quiz mistress," three real contestants, a game board filled with gay trivia, and the promise of actual prizes, *Quiz Bang* is gay game show theater at its best.

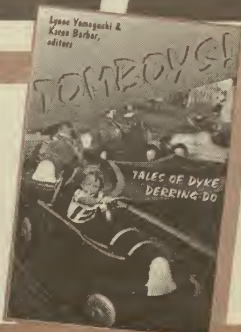
The brainchild of co-producer Brian Malcolm, *Quiz Bang* opened last March at the Cable Car Theater and has been running every Monday night since. Malcolm first cracked the notion of a gay game show when he was a contestant on *Sale of the Century*, which featured plasticine host Jim Perry and his cohort, the lovely Summer Bartholemew. Malcolm walked away from this televised trivia fest with \$23,000 and an idea: why not create a theatrical parody of game shows with even campier, all-gay components? Aided by co-pro-

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BOOKS

Robin
Sweeney
on 'Tomboys!'

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FILM

Zsa Zsa Gabor
as you've
never seen
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by Pithy Galore,
Justin Zane
and Alison Hale

Soup's On: Media artiste John Goss (director of *Wrecked for Life: The Trip and Magic of Trocadero Transfer* and a designer/assistant producer of the laser show at Luxor in Las Vegas) popped into the Bay Area last week to check up on Scaregrounds, a "Halloween scream park" outside Stockton to which he contributed (with Joe Moe) some attractions. Friday the 13th was a special day, as Linda Blair, apparently a little short on cash, put in an appearance. Her Horrificness signed photos for \$5 a piece and cans of

pea soup — remember the *Exorcist* — for \$6. (No word on whether she intended to donate a portion of the proceeds toward Rick James's ciggie bill at the penitentiary.)

Goss's other enterprise these days is Utopia, a four-story gay complex in Bangkok with a gift shop, café, karaoke bar, and guest rooms. He's also involved with filmmaker Paul Lee (*Thick Lips, Thin Lips*) in mounting Thailand's first gay/lesbian film festival.

The affable Goss is gay America's roving (and with more than just his eyes) ambassador of good will to the Far East, a job that might have fallen to James Hormel, had not Jesse Helms put the kibosh on his nomination to represent the U.S. in Fiji. Hormel may have lost the ambassadorship, but he's still on the Democratic Party A-list: While Linda Blair was signing her pea-soup cans, Hormel was dining with Vice President Al Gore here in SF. Earlier this month he sat right next to Hillary Clinton at an important White House function.

There's nothing that pleases Jenni Olson more than being confused for a man, something that often happens to Pithy Galore, though for different reasons. Olson asked a question at a press conference during the recent Toronto Film Festival and received a polite, "Well, sir..." response.

Back in SF last week, Olson "did," as she puts it, *The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in*



Linda Blair: never quite kicked the pea soup habit.

Love director Maria Maggenti — live in front of an audience, no less. Olson interviewed Maggenti as part of the latter's Film Arts Foundation workshop. The highlight was a screening of Maggenti's new Melissa Etheridge video, starring *Go Fish*'s Gwen Turner, for the Ain't Nothin' But a She Thing CD. The recording paired 10 women filmmakers with 10 women musicians, including Patti Smith and Salt 'N' Peppa.

Another musical event occurred the same night, a Tower Records in-store promotion of the new *Out Loud* CD, which benefits the International Lesbian and Gay Human Rights Commission. Melissa Ferrick (a.k.a. "the new Melissa") was the star attraction. The CD includes tracks by U2, Everything But the Girl, Voice Farm and the Indigo Girls.

Olson, who's toiling away on her long-overdue-after-publisher catalog of lesbian and gay film (but still has time to call gossip columnists), somehow incorporates watching MTV into her research. She caught a report on the channel's news show about Drew Barrymore, who is scheduled to portray the late Brandon Teena in a major studio picture.

Born a woman, Teena lived as a man, but was murdered after authorities in his small Nebraska town "outed" him. For many transgender activists, including Leslie Feinberg, who recounts Teena's story in Alissa Lebow's

video *Outlaw*, Teena's treatment is evidence that the "green light" for violence against the transgendered "comes from above."

Whether any of the political angle will make it into Barrymore's movie remains to be seen, though perhaps the planned independent film about Teena by Rachel Horowitz (sister of Beastie Boy Adam Horowitz) will do this part of the story justice if Hollywood doesn't. We're told there's also a script for a shorter work on Brandon Teena by Mark Christopher (*The Dead Boys' Club*) floating around, too.

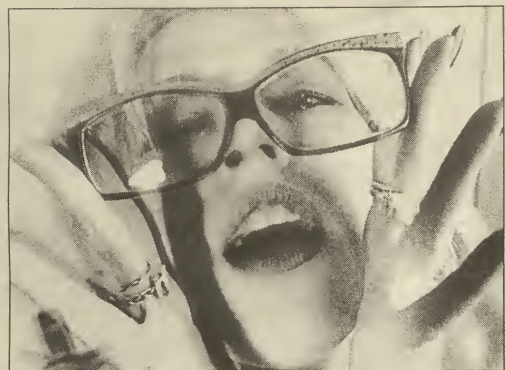
SF's The Hail Marys will be featured prominently in the upcoming Hollywood feature *Bound*,

which, in the words of lead singer Jackie Strano, is a "sort of lesbian *Pulp Fiction* noir gangster movie." Starring Gina Gershon (*Showgirls*) and Jennifer Tilly (yes, Meg's little sister) as a pair of butch/femme dykes, the ballsy (pardon the expression) film looks as if it does more than just dabble in lesbian chic. In fact, local sexpert Susie Bright was hired on as a creative consultant for the lesbian sex scenes. (Now, we know she'd never lend her name to something for mere exposure-sake, so it must be good.)

The song "Hopeless Faith" is used in the film for about 30 seconds, in a non-dialogue scene, which is pretty good advertising for one of SF's most underrated queer bands. As if that weren't enough, Strano and her anything-but-camera-shy girlfriend, Shar, play smoochy-faced butch/femme dykes in a bar scene. Anyone who's seen these two carry on at a Hail Marys show will tell you it's no stretch for either.

The latest edition of *Film-maker* reviews the films in this year's Outfest, the annual LA-based-queer film festival. Among the titles discussed was Marta Ballebo-Coll's *Costa Brava*, one of the big hits at this year's SF International L & G Film Festival. The reviewer effused freely over *Costa*'s co-star, Desi del Valle. "*Costa Brava* is a lesbian *Annie Hall* with a charismatic star in Desi del Valle. Not since *Go Fish*'s handsome Max lit up the screen has a lesbian lead aroused comparable fervor."

My Name Is David Bonetti and These Are My Sins: We were simply nonplussed this week by *Examiner* art critic David Bonetti's lengthy and coruscating response to Out There's recent outing of him as a fan of the mendacious and torrid *Melrose Place*. Bonetti's letter, a tome by any other name, went on and on and on, functioning as both a confessional and a semiotextual deconstruction of the television show's place in the *fin de siècle*. It was a thrilling letter, so brilliant in fact that we're forwarding a copy to Aaron Spelling as proof of the



Shar: you're so beautiful



Melrose Place: Bonetti's Nemesis

profound influence his creation is having on contemporary culture. But the letter wasn't all roses, as Bonetti took us to task for falsely accusing him of being a fan of *Beverly Hills 90210*. "That show never held my attention for more than 20 minutes," the witty one wrote. "I am grown up, after all." Thank you for setting us straight on that, darling, we weren't quite sure.

In closing his dissertation, Bonetti cleared up yet another profound mystery, one that has kept all of San Francisco holding its collective breath, namely, Who will sing "The Morning After" at *The Poseidon Adventure*

Continued on page 53

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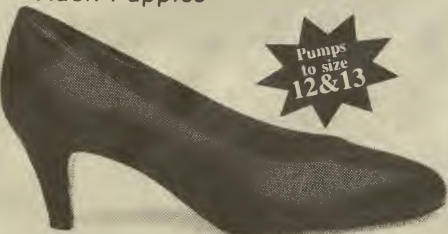
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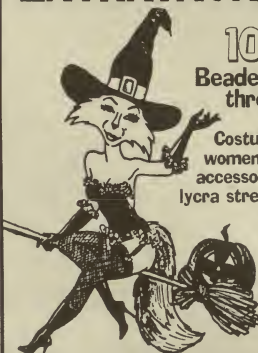
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Comic Suzy Berger Plays It Straight in *The Talking Cure* Berger Deluxe

by Chad Jones

Pardon the nail polish," Suzy Berger says after we shake hands. "It's for the show. I never wear it, but it's right for the character." Berger is talking about Jody, the character she plays in *The Talking Cure*, the new one-woman show she has written and is starring in at Josie's Cabaret. Like Berger, Jody is a thirtysomething woman with a great deal to say, but, unlike Berger, Jody is a heterosexual who has just made her first male friend, Gary, a gay man with AIDS.

Diminutive and enthusiastic, Berger is well known to gay audiences nationally as the lesbian stand-up comic with the New York accent, and locally as an actress in Theatre Rhino productions *Life of the Party* and *Balm In Gilead*. At the moment Berger is all worked up over her show, which she describes as an AIDS play that uses humor to make it accessible. "I felt compelled to write this play," she says. "People say, 'Why another AIDS play?' and I say, you know what? It's been part of my life for the last 10 years, too. I want to contribute something, and I'll keep doing the comedy, but I felt like I had something more to say."

Berger is in the unusual position of being one of only a few lesbians who has written AIDS plays. "I felt guilty for a while," Berger admits. "I asked myself, 'How come I'm not writing about breast cancer?' Well, you know why? It hasn't had a large impact on my life, I'm happy to say. Maybe if it ever does I'll write a play. But the truth is, this play is universal for anyone who has experienced loss or grief. I still have something to say, and it's my life that influences what I write, not anyone else's. Look, if people have a problem with me writing about this, I don't want to know about it because I think the message is greater than their pettiness."

Cathartic

The Talking Cure, Berger's first play, draws on both her personal life experience and work as a drama therapist. "Drama therapy is just like theater in that it is all about catharsis," she explains. "Catharsis is the release of feelings with some kind of insight, and theater with its aesthetic distance allows us that. That's why we go to the movies or to a play to laugh, or cry, or be scared. It's safe. I use humor with AIDS to provide distance. If I'm doing a scene in a hospital room and I say something funny, the audience is with me. Through the laughter they can sit back and watch what



Suzy Berger

is really happening. As an actress and a therapist I want to fuse the two worlds together and see what I can come up with."

In the process of writing the play, Berger says she realized she has a lot to say and is already mentally preparing her next show. "I'm so interested in discovering who people really are," Berger effuses. "You know, I'm a lesbian, I'm a Jew, and I have a New York

accent, so people think they know who I am. It's about stereotypes, and I'm interested in breaking stereotypes. Jody is a big Jewish American Princess, and her friend Gary, whom you never see, is a big fag — two big stereotypes. By the end of the play, I hope the audience is seeing past that to who these people are and how they weather life."

Continued on page 38

One From the Heart

For those who are primarily interested in Suzy Berger's stand-up comedy, her first solo show, *The Talking Cure*, might dash high expectations. Berger can certainly drop a funny line as well as anyone in the business, but this piece is not a laugh riot. Instead, *The Talking Cure* is the sweet, nostalgic story of a straight woman's gradual coming of age in the Age of AIDS.

Jody Grossman is a Spanish teacher who has transplanted herself from Jewish Brooklyn Heights to San Francisco. While she knows a lot about gay men, Jody doesn't actually know any. This changes, however, when she meets her neighbor Gary, a gay man with AIDS.

The Talking Cure is about the oft-presented straight woman/gay man relationship. Even though he has AIDS and gets progressively sicker during the course of the story, Gary is a compassionate loving doll of a human being. On the other hand, Donald, Jody's on again/off again boyfriend, is a jerk. But this is only part of the story. As the writer of the piece, Berger works gallantly to make the story special, and she generally succeeds.

Designed to flash back and forth in time, *The Talking Cure* focuses mostly on the relationship between Jody and Gary, moving them from acquaintances to friends to family. Still, Jody is the focus. As Berger journeys across the stage in Arturo Catricala's rather obvious blocking, Jody journeys deeper and deeper into her own humanity.

Berger pulls off this emotional journey by means of her exceptional acting skills. As singular as the material is in perspective, Berger gives Jody depth and vulnerability, making her the kind of friend we would all like to have.

It's difficult not to be moved by someone falling in love, and, in effect, this is what is happening to Jody. Her relationship with Gary begins as a small part of her life but ends up occupying a large part of it, and this is what love does to all of us. In this respect, Berger has done a great job wooing the audience as well. Jody is funny, charming and sincere. She also has spunk. These are qualities we all want in our friends. For these reasons alone, Berger's show is a pleasant way to spend an hour. ▼ —Jerry Metzker

The Talking Cure continues through Oct. 29 at Josie's. Call 861-7933 for tickets.

Eureka Theatre Returns With *Autumn Canticle* Three's Company

by Jerry Metzker

The Eureka Theatre, dormant since 1992, is making a comeback with a new production, John W. Lowell's *Autumn Canticle*, which premiered last week at First Congregational Church. When the Eureka Theatre began 23 years ago, the company's original site was Trinity Methodist Church at 16th and Market, so performing in a church appears to be a good omen for this progressive theater company, which has championed the plays of such distinguished playwrights as Maria Irene Fornes, Sam Shepard, Caryl Churchill, Dario Fo, and Tony Kushner.

Autumn Canticle concerns Peter Billings (Daniel Caldwell), one of America's foremost composers, and his life partner, baritone David Williams (David Ogden Stiers, Major Winchester of *M*A*S*H*), for whom Billings has composed most of his compositions. But hard work and bad habits have left Billings' body weak and exhausted his creativity. After returning home from bypass surgery, he finds what little solace he can in writing his memoirs with an eager young devotee, Peter (Michael Oosterom), who has taken up residence in their home. Williams is not pleased with this situation and he works hard to change it.

The characters in *Autumn Canticle* are unapologetically, comfortably gay, and although being so does affect their attitudes and responses, the play itself is about everything but that. Unlike our current display of gay drama (which is as much about display as it is drama), *Autumn Canticle* is about issues that are not intrinsically gay—the loss of talent, the dissolution of a sexual relationship, and the effect of death on a relationship many years old.

David Ogden Stiers' direction is polished and elegant. In fact, several scenes are so beautifully rendered they linger in the mind afterward. For example, after bringing Billings his pills, Williams drinks out of the same glass. All the sex and cuddling in the world could not convey more clearly or subtly this couple's 30-year partnership than this small, intimate moment.

Granted, there are problems, particularly in the second act, where Williams picks up the water tray and begins to leave the room about 20 times before actually going. But for the most part, *Autumn Canticle* buzzes along without a hitch.

The only weak link in the show is Daniel Caldwell's acting. On stage he is ill at ease, and his line execution falls somewhere between late and fumbled. Although Billings is supposed to be physically unwell, Caldwell has internalized the illness so deeply that he just looks tired, and that is not the same thing as recovering from open heart surgery. It is no wonder that Ogden Stiers seems, at times, to be pressing the situation. As a director and an actor, he knows it is essential to keep the play moving.

For his part, Ogden Stiers is a consummate performer. His acting goes down like a soothing broth on a cold autumn day. Oosterom is also quite good. ▼

Autumn Canticle continues through October 28 at First Congregational Church, Post and Mason, in San Francisco. Call 243-9895, or TIX Booth on Union Square, for tickets and information.



Michael Oosterom, Dan Caldwell, and David Ogden Stiers in John Lowell's *Autumn Canticle*

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Leigh Crow and Birdie-Bob Watt in Quiz Bang

Quiz Bang

Continued from cover

ducer Rich Baker, Malcolm got his idea off the ground and into a theater.

Quiz Bang audiences have been building steadily over the last seven months. On a recent Monday night the theater was nearly full, filled mostly with male couples tittering, cheering and whispering answers into each other's ears. Many come to root for friends who are contestants, but even more come to enjoy the antics of the fabulous host and hostess.

Great chemistry

It can safely be said that there are simply no two game show hosts like the stars of Quiz Bang. Leigh Crow, better known as Elvis Herselvis, is the untouchable, Wink Martindale-like host, complete with black tux and pink ruffled shirt. A commanding presence from the question podium, Crow's elongated, exaggerated delivery is a dead-on impersonation of every game show host from Monty Hall to Pat Sajak. Crow's partner in crime — and truth be told, a good host is nothing without a stunning hostess — is Miss Birdie, well known to patrons of the Artful Circle Theater's drag extravaganza as Birdie-Bob Watt. Dolled up with blonde curls in a French twist, high heels and a rainbow-striped sequin gown, Miss Birdie offers wryly ditzy commentary, works the audience, and turns the panels on the game board with all the grace of a Carol Merrill-trained Vanna White.

Backstage last week, Birdie and Crow offered the insider's view on Quiz Bang. "It's a game and theater," Crow explained. "It's the game of theater!" Birdie

concluded, but added, "This kind of show crosses a bunch of different lines. There are theater elements; there are stand-up comedy elements; and there's definitely a game show. At any given moment all three or none of those things could be happening. It's its own little animal."

Birdie has been with the show since its inception, but Crow stepped in several months later when original host Randy Pelos decided the gay game show gig wasn't for him. "Because we have real contestants there's a certain unknown quantity in the game," Birdie said. "You can't prepare for it beyond the sh*t you do every week. It was hard for Randy. We had a certain chemistry, some good, some bad, but when Leigh came into the show, all that changed. We have great chemistry."

While contestants accumulate points for answering questions in categories such as "Barbie," "Bon Mots for Gay Boys," "Who Cut the Cheese?" or "Quotable Queens," Crow and Birdie serve as camp monitors — there can never be enough. Interaction with the audience — especially when they start shouting answers to the contestants — is frequent, and bearded creator Malcolm is always seated in the front row busily scribbling down point scores and making judgment calls on iffy answers.

Campy but edgy

While Quiz Bang is mostly fun and games, a subversive gay element is palpable. "When creating this show," Malcolm explained, "I was very conscious about wanting to create something fun, campy and very gay-positive." One recent category featured the question, "What was the first state to repeal its sodomy law?" The an-

swer: "Illinois in 1961." Who knew? None of the contestants did.

"Some of the questions on the show are a real re-examination of themes," Birdie said. "You get all kinds of dirt on gay sports figures, Judy Garland's shoes, historical figures, you name it. You can take all these little pieces and you can put together a whole picture, or start to put it together or think about starting to put it together. Not to make it sound like public service, but it's really easy to learn something during the show."

The writers, at this point, are all gay men, and in between categories dealing with gay icons, history and entertainment they show their teeth. A recent category about right wing politicians was called "Dumb and Dumber." A category about evangelists sported the moniker "White Trash," and a "mixed" category titled "Christian Coalition or Barnyard Animals?" found its way to the board.

As for future plans, Malcolm, the game's guru, said he would like to find a home on cable, but the logistical nightmares will take time to work out. Until then, the Quiz Bang bunch will be content with their Monday night berth at the Cable Car Theatre and the occasional charity event, like the upcoming PAWS night (complete with post-show Tupperware party), or the "Diva Night," in which Connie Champagne, Miss X and Joan Jett Blakk will compete to raise money for their favorite charities.

Malcolm said he is even considering a "First Ladies' Night" in which men in drag portray Ladybird Johnson, Bess Truman and Mamie Eisenhower. Imagine an earnest Ladybird surveying the color-coded board and saying, "I'll take 'Rhymes With Labia' for orange please, Leigh." Only in San Francisco. ▼

Quiz Bang continues Monday nights at the Cable Car Theater. For show information call 956-8497. To audition as a contestant, call 821-0650.

Opera

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Dec. Cast: Watanabe*/Riel* (12/9 mat), Bishop, Folland,
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Production: Runnicles/Mackerras (12/2, 4, 9 eve),
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La Cenerentola

BY GIOACHINO ROSSINI
Sung in Italian with English Supertitles
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Cast: Borodina*, Folland, Bishop, Streit, Gallo, Alaimo,
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Production: Rizzi*, Alden, Ponnelle, Munn
This production is made possible in part by a generous gift from
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† Pre-Performance Lectures:
This series of pre-performance talks offers fascinating insights into the operas of the 1995 season. The talks begin 55 minutes before curtain and are free with your performance ticket. (Madama Butterfly lectures: 10/20 and 12/4 & 9 eve; La Cenerentola lectures: 10/21, 25 & 11/2)

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Berger

Continued from page 38

This is not the first time Berger has played a straight woman, and she admits it's not much of a stretch. "I was playing 'straight' in this play and several weeks into rehearsal this gay guy comes up to me and asks me if I'm married," Berger says with mock horror. "Oh, my god! I was insulted. But I have auditioned for straight roles in my straight drag. It works. You have to pass if you're gonna do a commercial where it's a non-issue. I can get rid of my New York accent just as easily, so I don't see a difference between one or the other. It's my job as an actress, and it's my duty to be whatever kind of person they need."

Even before *The Talking Cure* makes a splash, Berger has already achieved a bit of immortality: the chefs in the Josie's Cabaret kitchen have named a burger after her — the Suzy Burger, a veggie burger with grilled onions, mushrooms and cheese on toast. The very thought of it draws a high-pitched squeal of delight from Berger that registers somewhere between a carnival whistle and a boiling tea kettle. "The burger," Berger says, "is filling. No, wait." She narrows her eyes and lowers her voice in an attempt to be sultry. "Say it's satisfying." ▼

Suzy Berger's *The Talking Cure* runs through Oct. 29 at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint. Call 861-7933 for information.



Zsa Zsa Gabor (center) in *Queen of Outer Space*

Zsa Zsa Gabor's *Queen of Outer Space* Attack of the Man- Hating Lingerie Models

by Greta Christina

Gather 'round the fire, my children, and I shall tell you of a better time, a simpler time, a time when men were men and women had torpedo-like breasts, a time we call the 1950s. Those days are lost forever, I fear. But you can get a taste of that sweet era, for one week only, with the Castro Theatre's brand-new 35mm CinemaScope DeLuxe color print of Zsa Zsa Gabor's *Queen of Outer Space*.

I'm still trying to figure out why anyone would bother to restore a Zsa Zsa Gabor movie. What exactly was the quality that was too precious to be denied the world of cinema? Was it the cheesy sheen of the zero-budget set design? The laboriously careful way that the actors hit their marks? The too-tacky-even-for-Frederick's-of-Hollywood costumes?

Well, whatever their reasoning, I'm glad they did it. *Queen of Outer Space* is a camp classic, and well worth your time if your laundry's done and you don't have anything better to do. It's not a good movie, you understand. It's cheap and tawdry, with third-rate acting and fifth-rate writing and production values that would have embarrassed the makers of *Lost in Space*.

The plot (such as it is) concerns three Earth astronauts and an Earth scientist who crash-land on Venus. (I know, it sounds like a bad joke: "Three astronauts and a scientist crash-land on Venus, and

one of them says to the bartender..." Much to their delight and dismay, they find that the planet has been taken over by sexy women in bad lingerie, ruled by the man-hating Queen of Venus. Many of the Venusian women are unhappy without men, however, and there is a growing subversive movement among them led by that former Miss Hungary of 1936, Zsa Zsa Gabor. Naturally. When you think "subversive underground leader," don't you immediately think of Zsa Zsa?

Now, if you're one of these people who hisses at the backward politics of old movies, then stay away. The movie is garishly sexist. It has no subtext whatsoever; its Neanderthalism is right on the surface, with lines like, "We had to keep some of the men alive — scientists and mathematicians" and "Even if a woman could build a gizmo like that, she'd never know how to aim it ... you know women drivers." (My own personal favorite: "There are thousands of women like them, desperately wishing for the old order.")

And consider yourself warned: *Queen of Outer Space* isn't all bonbons and synthetic chiffon. There are several slow, stupid moments that don't even have bad-movie camp value. Be sure to get some decent snacks to keep you occupied; someone to neck with during the slow parts wouldn't be a bad idea, either.

But don't let that keep you away. It may not be *Citizen Kane*. Okay, it's definitely not *Citizen*

Kane. But if you have a soft spot for dreadful Grade Z movies, then this one is not to be missed. ▼

***Queen of Outer Space* plays at the Castro Theatre October 20-26.**

Nightmare at the Kabuki



If you haven't made your Halloween plans yet, why not spend the evening at the Kabuki Theatre with Scott O'Hara, Arturo Galster, Joan Jett Blakk, Jerome Caja, Donna Sachet, Tom Ammiano and Joan Crawford. That's right, they're all gonna be at the Kabuki October 26 for a spectacular Nightmare costume contest, cocktail reception (honoring Joan C), and special showing of Joan's classic horror flick, *Berserk*, the 1967 sadistic shocker in which "Mommie" plays the owner of a circus who is haunted by a series of brutal murders. This spectacular evening kicks off with cocktails at 7 p.m.; from 8-9 p.m. it's a Crawford lookalike costume contest (winners take home spectacular prizes). And then at 9 p.m. it's Mommie's turn. Tickets are \$25. Proceeds benefit The AIDS Emergency Fund. For tickets and information, call the Berserk hotline At 437-5794. ▼

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Zsa Zsa



Olga Borodina and Kurt Streit in Rossini's *La Cenerentola*

Rossini's *La Cenerentola* Bel Canto Follies

by Paul Thomason

Imagine an internationally known theater company mounting a production of Shakespeare's *Hamlet* in which Hamlet must give his "To be or not to be" soliloquy while backed by a bunch of scantily clad Las Vegas showgirls who mimed his words. "To be" (right hand on right cheek), "or not to be" (change to left hand on left cheek). "That is the question" (left hand on top of head, right hand on hip while swinging hip out as far as possible). No one would take such a production seriously, and if the company persisted in desecrating the art form it was supposed to serve, it would soon lose the respect of both critics and audiences.

Yet the San Francisco Opera often gives equally inappropriate stagings, especially of bel canto works. The most recent example of such heinousness at the War Memorial is the revival of Jean-Pierre Ponnelle's production of Rossini's delightful comedy *La Cenerentola*, which opened last Friday. (Perhaps superstitions about unlucky Friday the 13th have something to them after all.) How much of the vulgarity was in Ponnelle's 1969 original staging, and how much is the invention of stage director Christopher Alden, I do not know. But any opera company run by people who truly care about opera, and who are passionate about presenting the art form in the best possible way, would not have allowed Rossini's

retelling of the Cinderella story to be staged as a fagged-out version of *The Three Stooges Go to Italy*.

The campy, gay-stereotyped actions of the men of the chorus and some of the male characters were downright offensive and should be stopped. Neither Rossini's music nor the libretto call for any of this tastelessness. It is simply a directorial conceit. Certainly the SF Opera would never allow a director to put people in black face and have them shuffle across the stage while eating watermelon and rolling their eyes. So why does the opera encourage the gay equivalent? Shame on those responsible!

All this was especially unfortunate because Ponnelle's sets are perfect for the fairy tale: light, elegant, atmospheric and fun; and there was much to enjoy musically.

Best of all was bass-baritone

Simone Alaimo as Cinderella's stepfather Don Magnifico. Not only did he sing superbly (no easy task given Rossini's music), but his riveting stage presence was a constant reminder that broad, Italian *buffo* comedy can be hysterically funny, even over the top, without becoming vulgar. Anyone who loves Italian opera should not miss this chance to enjoy such consummate artistry.

Distinguished debuts

One wonders why Olga Borodina chose *Cenerentola* (Cinderella) as her company debut. Nature probably intended the mezzo for heavier roles like Eboli or Carmen, to say nothing of the Russian repertoire. Still, her soft singing was a joy. In her opening aria, "Una volta c'era un re," she caressed phrases beautifully, creating a sympathetic character while

Continued on page 43

THEATRE

They're Baaaaack!



Tish as Carole-Anne in *Poltergeist—The Play*

Photo: Marc Geller

Back with yet another just-in-time-for-Halloween production, The Sick & Twisted Players present *Poltergeist—The Play*. Based on the 1982 Steven Spielberg-produced film about a suburban household taken over by evil ghosts, *Poltergeist—The Play* is everything we've come to expect from the Sick & Twisted bunch—silly, sloppy, and, in the words of director Tony Vaguely, "extra-EXTRA low-budget."

Considering the number of special effects in the film, the stage translation—replete with strobe lights, fishing line, and silly string—ends up looking rougher than many of their previous productions. But, not unlike an elementary school play, therein lies the charm.

Of course, the spirited performances help the cast pull it off with *chutzpah*. Kyle Overstreet's rendition of the 8-year-old Robbie is an absolute scene-stealer, and Deena Davenport is perfect as the three-foot-tall clairvoyant, Tangina.

Although it loses steam near the end, when the cast begins screaming every single line, *Poltergeist—The Play* is still a delightful, downright hysterical, parody. And if you've never seen the original film, by all means rent it before checking out the stage version. Much of the humor derives from the troupe's attempts to replicate the special-effects scenes from the movie, which, according to Vaguely, become more numerous with each performance. (Though, in true S&T fashion, that seems more by circumstance than design.) ▼ —Adrian Roberts

The Sick & Twisted Players' *Poltergeist—The Play* runs through November 4 at the Bernice Street Playhouse, 21 Bernice Street (off 12th Street between Folsom and Harrison). Tickets are \$8 on Thursday, \$10 on Friday and Saturday. Call 826-5358 for more information.

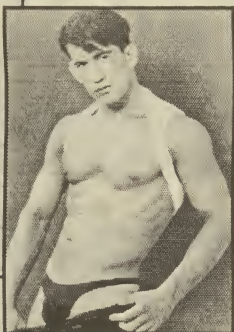
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Sky's the Limit

by Paul Thomason

His voice is the most mysterious instrument there is," said Jake Heggie, composer, pianist and public relations associate at the San Francisco Opera in a recent interview at the opera house. "It's the most magical, the most personal, the most intimate. The combination of words and music has always grabbed me more than anything else. And now I'm always surrounded by voices, so writing for the voice is the most natural thing to do."

A few months ago Heggie learned that his setting of Emily Dickinson's poem "If You Were Coming in the Fall" was selected as a winner of publisher G. Schirmer's 1995 Young American's Art Song Competition. Out of 500 songs entered, only eight will be included in an anthology to be published early next year.

On October 2, Heggie accompanied mezzo-soprano Frederica von Stade in a performance of three of his songs at a fundraising concert for the AIDS Project of Contra Costa at First Congregational Church in Berkeley. He credits the singer with helping him get back to composing after having put music-making on hold for a few years so that he could recover from a hand injury. "She's my salvation in a way. It was when Flicka agreed to do a demo tape for me (for the Schirmer contest) that I realized writing music must be something I was meant to do. I feel completely indebted to her. She really turned it around for me."

Ex-Angeleno

Two years ago Heggie moved to San Francisco from Los Angeles, first working at Cal Performances, then moving to the SF Opera. Shortly after arriving in the Bay Area, Heggie got back in touch with countertenor Brian Asawa, whom he had known at UCLA. "I had played for some of Brian's lessons and worked with him on a couple of concerts when we were both undergrads at UCLA. When we did the Bach B Minor Mass, Brian sang the 'Agnus Dei' and it was one of the most haunting things I've ever heard."

"Brian mentioned he had a concert coming up in London at Wigmore Hall with pianist Melvyn Tan and asked if I would write something for it. I thought, Brian sings material that goes back several centuries and he really needs something that is a very personal statement, something that lets him have fun with the music and lets him talk about himself through the music. When Brian sings, we hear a beautiful sound and get this wonderful warmth and emotion from him—but let's hear the *real* story," Heggie added with a laugh.

While living in Los Angeles, Heggie accompanied the LA Gay Men's Chorus in numerous performances of *Hidden Legacies* and *Flashpoint Stonewall*, which the group sang in Carnegie Hall during the Stonewall 25 Celebration last year. Words to both compositions were written by John Hall, director of music theater and opera workshop at UCLA. Since Asawa had studied with Hall, and Heggie knew him well, "It just seemed natural to ask John to write the words." The results, to be premiered in London on November 21, is "Encountertenor, Three Songs for Countertenor and Fortepiano."

"I knew John's poems were going to work because the minute they came over the fax machine

Continued on page 45



Composer Jake Heggie

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Deborah Slater's *A Hole in the World* The Art of the Matter

by Wendell Ricketts

Sausalito-based choreographer Deborah Slater's *A Hole in the World*, which finishes a run at the 450 Geary Studio Theater this weekend, is a work about loss and the imperfect processes of mourning. Neither topic is exactly unexplored in contemporary performance, but Slater accomplishes something with this familiar material that many artists would be wise to flatter with the sincerest imitation they can muster.

A Hole in the World is funny, incisive, and touching—but that's not the hard part. Slater combines movement and spoken word in a way that makes neither seem like the other's bastard child and, in so doing, creates a richly textured work that is greater than the sum of its elements.

The specific loss that forms the material for *A Hole in the World* is the death of Slater's father, and the piece opens with Slater in her parents' garage, cleaning out the decades' worth of accumulation that her father has crammed into every available space. But it isn't just piles Slater is going through, it's stratigraphy. By the time she's hauled away the unopened cases of Bug-Geta and rose spray that never made it into the garden; the box of unanswered solicitation letters from the ACLU (dating back to 1976); and the carton of crumbling rubber washers that never found their way into various leaky faucets, what's clear is that Slater's father lived his life on some sort of monumental contingency plan.

When Slater is done with the post-funeral cleanup, the car fits into the garage for the first time in 20 years, but Slater and her mom agree: They'd rather have dad back. Even with all his "just in case" concern about the future, the one eventuality he couldn't plan for was his permanent absence.

As richly evocative as the garage scene is, however, what makes it particularly magical is that it takes place on a virtually empty stage. In lieu of set and props (unless you count yet another masterful lighting design by Jack Carpenter, which I do), Slater and her dancers do inge-

nious things with 18 simple wooden boxes. Throughout *Hole in the World* the dancers virtually never stop wielding them—building a garden walkway, turning them into a kind of Maginot Line against grief, passing them politely back and forth while an oblivious Slater labors, like Sisyphus, at constructing a tower she can never complete (whenever she bends to pick up another box, a dancer carries away the top of her structure). Is Slater's tower her future? The past? And what is it that keeps her task from ever coming to an end? Slater allows as how she's caught her father's disease—not the one that killed him, but the one that compelled him to save the product manual for every appliance he ever owned. She's got a file just like it at home.

The movement in *Hole in the World* is well-suited to the tiny 450 Geary Studio—not so grand as to appear cramped, but not cautious or unambitious either. It's pleasant, highly gestural, occasionally quite beautiful. Ney Fonseca's *penches*, for example, are a model of elegance of line, and some of the dancers' smaller gestures—such as when they aim pointed index fingers straight in toward their own hearts or caress their own cheeks—are the most powerful.

Given the topic, it's perhaps not surprising that Slater's text occasionally dips into sentimental clichés that make you squirm in your seat. At one point, for example, Slater places a box with her father's ashes on the corner of the playing area and addresses it: "I miss you, Dad." Standing on a diagonal, the dancers respond "Miss you, too."

But these brief weaknesses are redeemed by the finer aspects of the performance. The score of jazzy klezmer music (or is it klezmerish jazz?), played onstage by the three members of THREAD, is a delight, and the musicians add to the ambience by dressing as though they've stopped off to play for Slater on their way home from *Shul*. Nina Galin's a cappella rendition of Maurice Ravel's *Kaddish*, meanwhile, is heartbreaking, and you can hardly take your eyes off this small woman with the huge voice

that conveys such pain and transcendence in the same moment. Galin's *Kaddish* isn't beautiful because it is perfect, it is perfect because it is beautiful.

Slater's *A Hole in the World* tells us that even if loss sometimes mangles the fabric of our lives, we have no choice but to weave our garments out of that flawed material. Slater wears hers with style, humor, and grace. ▼

***A Hole in the World*, choreographed by Deborah Slater, directed by Jim Cave, 450 Geary Studio Theatre, through October 21. Call 673-1172 for tickets and information.**



Nina Galin and Katherine Warner in *A Hole in the World*

Photo: Mary Soti

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USG-126

Opera

Continued from page 40

seeming to do very little. She considerably scaled down her large voice to match her partners', but tended to disappear in larger ensembles. Rossini wrote an enormous vocal range for his title character, from high B natural to low G-sharp below middle C, and Borodina had no trouble with either the range (though her voice whitened out at the very top) or the fiendish coloratura of the role. How cruel to ask her to sing her big aria at the end of the opera with the chorus standing behind her, effeminately swinging their bodies in time to the music, poking fun at it as she effortlessly hurled out streams of rapid sixteenth notes.

What I missed in Borodina's otherwise admirable performance was a sparkle, an effervescence which should run throughout Rossini's music. Perhaps she was simply done in by the staging. It would be understandable.

The evening's other debut was conductor Carlo Rizzi, who gave a fleet, deft reading of the score, never overpowering the singers, and kept the orchestra bubbling.

There were times the orchestra faded into inaudibility, but perhaps that was because I was sitting under the overhang.

Tenor Kurt Streit was a believable Don Ramiro, Cinderella's Prince. A couple of weak high Cs aside, he sang Rossini's fiendish music superbly, making one wish that some of his big aria in Act II had not been cut. As the Prince's tutor Alidoro, bass-baritone Dale Travis sang well. Vocally, Nicolle Foland and Elizabeth Bishop were effective as the two stepsisters. They deserve an award for being able to sing at all considering the nonsense they were asked to do by the director.

Unfortunately, in the important role of Dandini, baritone Lucio Gallo was simply inadequate. He barely approximated Rossini's admittedly difficult music and sounded out of sorts all evening. One can only wonder if whoever hired him for the part had any idea what the role required. ▼

Performances of *La Cenerentola* continue at the War Memorial Opera House through November 2. For tickets (\$21 to \$125) and further information call 864-3330.

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INTERVIEW

Grimsley

Continued from cover

Jim Grimsley: It's very important to me to write close to the place where people dream - as if the images were rising up out of your own subconscious, so that you're not just reading my book, it's as if you're having the fantasy that's involved with the book along with me. To create that, it's important to ground the book in reality and yet to have some reason for it to veer off into a kind of super-reality - "dream-reality" is a better word.

I think when you give people a story that seems to take place in that kind of dream state, they'll open up to it more. It becomes something like one of their own dreams or fantasies, and they become very vulnerable to the story, which is what I want when I'm writing about these two boys in particular. It's a technique I've used before, but in this case, the book wouldn't work without it, because the novel has to start off in the real world and then go somewhere indeterminate.

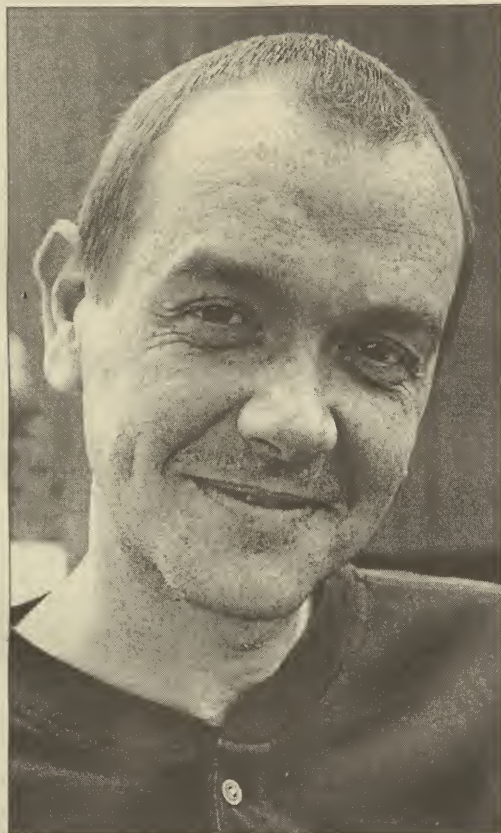
Dream Boy and *Winter Birds* contain several common elements: the drunken monster father, child abuse, a rural Southern backdrop, etc. I know from interviews that these are largely autobiographical, but I'm curious as to how closely you mine your own past for material for your work.

In the case of *Winter Birds*, the "mine" was pretty close. Most of that is fairly directly out of my life, and basically, that family was built on the memories of my family during my childhood years.

In the case of Nathan, that's much, much less true. His story is not much like mine ever was. There are some elements in it that are shared, but they're shared by so many families in that part of the world.

This father [in *Dream Boy*] is not very much like the father in *Winter Birds*. That father is much more violent and angry, and actually much stronger. This man is incredibly weak. They share a drinking problem, but that's about it.

But both Nathan and Danny [in *Winter Birds*] live in fear of their father.



Jim Grimsley

Now that I think is a definite parallel. Both Nathan and Danny have good reason to be afraid of the intruder in the night - that feeling that they're never safe even when they're sleeping.

A couple of critics reviewing both books have talked about the fact that *Winter Birds* is really about hemophilia and this one is about homosexuality, and both books are about being isolated by

Continued on next page

Complicated Awakening

Dream Boy by Jim Grimsley; Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, \$18.95

by Daniel Mangin

An awkward teen's sexual awakening is complicated by paternal abuse in Jim Grimsley's second novel, set in rural North Carolina.

Nathan, a high-school sophomore, falls in love with his next-door neighbor Roy, a senior who drives the school bus. The two boys' moments together are mostly furtive, and not merely because Nathan fears his father's anger. Though Roy is tender with Nathan, he is only comfortable with his homosexuality in private, and only until their lovemaking is completed:

"Always the admonition is the same. You can't say anything about this to anyone else. You can't do this with anybody else but me. Okay? Followed by the cloud of guilt, the moment when Roy can no longer bring himself to look at Nathan or to touch him. The guilt clouds him worse each time."

Nathan's conflicted sentiments regarding his own sexuality derive from Roy's changeable attitude and the unwanted advances of his father, which Grimsley for the most part wisely insinuates rather than describes. The same sexual act with these two pivotal men in Nathan's life yields both dread and joy.

Dream Boy is written in the present tense, with crisp, mostly short sentences that reflect its two protagonists' emotions and experience:

"Roy sits in the driver's seat. He smiles when he sees Nathan, something shy in his expression. Nathan takes the seat behind him, and he hands back his books and asks Nathan to look after them. The books are warm and precious, placed in Nathan's trust."

Grimsley's sense of place is as canny as his reconstruction of youth's tentative passion. With an economy of detail, he limns the topography of Nathan's world - his home, the surrounding farms, the cemetery where he and Roy meet, and the deserted plantation mansion where Nathan's worst nightmare becomes reality.

The author's only missteps occur late in the book at the mansion, when a crisis brings Nathan and Roy's situation out into the open. The flaw here is in plotting; though the action follows a too-obvious trajectory, Grimsley's delineation of Nathan's psychological state still rings true. *Dream Boy* regains its stride in its closing chapters and comes to a satisfying and well-crafted resolution. ▼

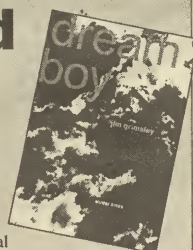


Photo: Rick Gerhart

Grimsley

Continued from page 44

those things. I think that's rather true, though I hadn't thought about it till I read it — but, you know, those are bright people! [Laughs.]

On sort of the same tack, I was struck by a statement that you made concerning your father's death: "I went to his funeral so I could see him dead." Has writing about two "evil" fathers now somehow changed how you view your own father or been in any way therapeutic?

I feel very gentle now on the subject of my own father, because he's been dead for about 15 years. [Pauses.]

Do you think you needed that 15 years to ...

Yeah. If he had lived, I would have needed a lot more than that. Because he was not always a monster, but he was pretty steadily Having a father like that is a kind of blessing and a curse. He was an incredible force in terms of shaping my life. ... He would behave just well enough just long enough to seduce you into caring about him and then all of a sudden turn. He was diagnosed later on as having schizophrenia, so this wasn't just meanness on his part. It was mental illness at a point when nobody was trying to treat that very much.

The sex scenes, for lack of a better phrase, between Nathan and Roy are so beautifully rendered — restrained yet very passionate and tender. Did you have any special concerns in handling/depicting the sexual relationship of two teenage boys?

Well it had to be sexy first of all, because sex is so new — and so strange — when you're 15 or 16. It's opening this door that alters the whole world, I think. The sex had to be there, because the sex is especially what Roy follows that tells him this is who I really am — being with this boy [Nathan] is

who I am.

Nathan's been taken into sexuality without any choice by his father, so what he's really discovering here is that what scares him with his father doesn't scare him with Roy. In fact, that he loves it with Roy. So in that sense it's also Nathan's awakening.

To approach sex in a literary way is really tough. I spent some time not publishing but writing porn novels for my own amusement, just to see what that was like. ... And it's incredibly repetitious and dull. What that writing taught me was that the more mechanical you make sex, the less like sex it is. The porn approach to sex is for a particular reason, but it doesn't work in the context of talking about real people coming together.

The one false note in the novel, for me, was Burke. He was just so one-dimensional, such an ogre, that the violence he perpetrates on Nathan was, although horrific, sort of a disappointment, just because it seemed so predictable.

My agent when he read this book thought the foreshadowing ... that it was too clear, too early, what was going to happen with Burke. I heard that criticism of him, but by that point there wasn't really that much I could do about it because the ending was there. Burke had already done what he'd done, and I couldn't think how to change that. ... He is the weakest plot element in the book, but frankly I think he is a minor enough element and the violence is inevitable enough, that he doesn't do the story seri-

ous damage.

Some reviewers seem eager to hang that "Southern writer" or "gay Southern writer" tag on you — like you and Allan Gurganus and Dorothy Allison are all some sort of special coterie. What do you think of that label and do you feel any kinship with these writers?

I do very much feel a kinship with Dorothy, of a particular kind because the material — the subject matter — is so much alike. I haven't met Allan — so I don't know him — but he was born in Rocky Mount [North Carolina] where I was born, so we're both from the same patch of dirt, which gives us a kind of connection.

I'm often asked if I think of myself as a gay writer, and the

fact is that I just don't think that way. I don't sit around thinking, "Oh, I'm a gay writer." [Laughs.] You are what you do, and when I'm writing, I don't think about I mean my gayness is there, the fact that I'm attracted to men is there.

I don't think about my hemophilia when I'm writing — that's one way of answering that question. I'm a hemophilic writer, but it doesn't really mean anything to describe me that way. And beyond a certain point to be called a gay writer or a Southern writer doesn't mean anything, either. In terms of the whole body of my work, including the plays, there are times when I'm a Southern writer, and times when I'm not. There are times when I'm a gay writer, and times when I'm not. I'm always a gay person. ▼

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Heggie

Continued from page 41

they started singing at me. That's the way I can tell if it's meant for me to set a particular poem. When I look at it on the page, if it immediately starts singing to me and I can hear how it's going to go. I don't know where inspiration comes from," Heggie mused. "It just happens. I think more than anything else it's just being open, not being jaded about or prejudice against any particular thing.

"Looking at John's poems for Brian, and at Emily Dickinson's poems, they're very different, and each of them inspires a different kind of response, a different kind of music to enhance the essence of what they're trying to say."

Music-loving family

Heggie grew up in Ohio in a family that loved music, but with the exception of his father, who played jazz saxophone, no one played an instrument. Heggie began studying piano at age six or seven and composition a few years later. "I had a paper route and also got an allowance," he recalled, "and I'd spend all my money buying records and music scores. All I wanted to do was listen to music and read through every piece I could get my hands on."

After high school he went to France and studied music for two years, then to UCLA for both a

Continued on page 52

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MUNI #24 Sunday, 8/24, 5:30pm

You were reading Paul Monette and we exchanged small talk. You got off at Hayes (end took your beautiful smile with you). How about dinner? Brian. **6801.**

8/20/95 Bk Nissan Truck on Van Ness.

Cute driver w/ shorts on nothin' else. This red bearded Teddy bear stared out the window of the MUNI bus next to your smooth self. I'd like to climb into the passenger seat and you lap some time. **6806.**

Harlequin Cafe, 8/18, 1:15pm

You: T-shirt, blue jeans, pasta salad, time magazine & cool blue eyes that caught mine. Me: toned, black sweatshirt & shorts. Wanna meet? **6805.**

HRFC Silent Auction

You were selling wine. I bought the Martini Cab. '78 Artist label. I'd like to share it. **6804.**

Cliff's Hardware

9/19/95 about 6:00pm. You were tall and very attractive in a pair of white shorts and a dark shirt. They could not find a match for your key. We smiled several times, but I was pressed for time. Would love to meet you. **6802.**

Mark M. From San Rafael

We met twice, 9/19 at the Cafe. Me: tall bl/gm, 26. You very sweet-cute. I would love to do dinner. To shy to give you my #. Let's get together Jessie (Jes). **6803.**

Sparky's Fri Nite 9/28

You: Blue t-shirt, cute, with friends. Me: White t-shirt with friends. We exchanged many glances and smiles. Then I put on my helmet and left on roller blades. I'd like to meet you. Please call. **6803.**

Sept. 26 # Castro (Henry & 14th) 5:30-8:00

Me: Leaving house, shorts white t-shirt, back pack. You: Tanned, gray hair, shorts, white t-shirt & a great smile. We walked opposite Wams we both turned & looked back. Love to see you again! **6901.**

Joe, Superbowl Eve, 1/95

I scored between your uprights. Want a repeat. Call ASAP. **6902.**

Folsom Gulch Tom

Monday the 5th I was in your face. I want more. Call Steve. **6903.**

GEVA's: Tuesday 9/28

You: Mark, our waiter, served me and my friend between 6-8:00, before symphony. Would like to talk. Please call Gary. **6904.**

Dr. Neger's, 10/3, 4pm

You: Cute guy w/ curly br hair/eyes, tall and thin, evidently a caregiver for a patient. Left w/ him after appt. in cab, but at door smiled at me and waved. Me: frustrated nice guy in wht shirt & shorts; kept looking over at you to catch your eye. Did I Sure wished I thought of a cool way to go over & intro. myself and get to know you. **6943.**

The Hottest Guy in Town

Even the Hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play Safe! Protect yourself & those you Play with. Always wear a condom, don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+ don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone. **6SAFE.**

Who's The Bearded Guy On 21st St.?

You: Handsome, bearded guy in jeans, birkenstocks and sweatshirt w/ folio over shoulder. Me: Guy in new black truck you made eye contact with. First by Spinelli on Castro, then when you crossed in front of me at 21st to walk home. Its been a couple of weeks but would love to talk. **7000.**

Todd In Toon Town

Todd, we talked 9/27 and I was very interested! I gave you my card in the hope you would call. How's the caricature? **7001.**

Wed Nite 10/4 Castro In Front Theatre

You: Beautiful vest boy. Me: Tall, dark hair with blue shirt. We caught each other eyes at the same time & both turned. You were in reluctant hurry. Call me. **7002.**

Castro St Fair Outside Badlands

You were standing outside Badlands with your red dog. Sporting close-cropped hair a great smile and a beautiful, kissable chest. I have a mustache a goatee, and was standing just outside the door, looking at you. Would like to look again. Are you as warm and cuddly as you look? Please call. **7034.**

Oak/Gough St Sighting

Sunday 10/08, 3:30pm. You: tall, cute chinese men wearing glasses, wht t-shirt, faded blue jeans w/ shirt tied at waist w/ backpack. Me: young attractive Latin, sunglasses, blk t-shirt, walking shorts w/ backpack. Waved & you smiled, went into corner mkt, would like to meet U! Pls call. **7033.**

Ken

Talked briefly at Castro Fair, but we first met at Badlands on July 30, the hottest day of the year, it was 99, but I am sure you caused the merc to soar into the triple digits. I'd like it if we could get to know one another better. Ceil Jim **7058.**

Seeking Relationship M-M

Are You Asian And Smooth?
I'm a musc. GWM, 38, loving & sincere. If you are smooth. Musc, toned, not afraid of commitment. Lets try no games. **6820.**

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Husky, Bk Bottom Looking For Top

Me: 39, 6', 270, HIV-, affectionate, caring, spiritual, non-attitude. You: masculine top, 30-50, any race, good scenes of humor, affectionate, monogamous, looking for serious relationship. **6822.**

Goodlooking White Sugar Daddy

Wanted for pretty black Queen. Hi, I'm looking for a good looking white Sugar Daddy who is generous, and erotic and into my sincere, sweet, pretty, brown sugar. You must be cute, I am pretty, you must be generous. I am flexible, you must be serious, so am I. **6837.**

Hopeful Romantic

GWM, 42, 185*, drk hair/eyes, masculine, considered handsome, hairy, good build, in joys outdoors, sunsets on the beach, candle light dinners, travel, old BW movies, holding hands and passionate kissing. I'm HIV+, but extremely healthy and definitely a top. I tend to like guys younger, honest, loving and commitment oriented. **6819.**

GWM Seeks Friends?
Seeking GWM or BWM for friendship etc. Me: 50, 6'2", 180*, HIV-, 8' uncut, col grad, retired, ND, smoke OK. Tired of bar scene. You be French & Greek active & passive, cut ++, hairy body, big pluses. **6818.**

If You're 27 & Under

Hispanic/Asian call. Me: 18yo, gay, half Spanish/English, 155*, 6'2", very intelligent, seeking Asian/Hispanic male for romantic fun times & relationship. 27 & under please. Home boy, definite plus, no tats/fems. Will reply only to serious person. Getting lonely. **6817.**

Asian Thai Top

Asian 28yo, short person, HIV-, good looking, handsome and great body. Looking for GWM, 5'8", HIV-. Like Asian only. Please be 18-36, with big B* or 9*, thanks. You'll not be sorry if you call. PS. S.F. only. **6816.**

Handsome Boy

5'10", 155*, 33yo, br/br, moustache, HIV+, very healthy, bottom. I enjoy life and becoming successful. Interested in a man who is attractive, successful, over 40, hairy, moustache, top. We are both romantic, passionate and desire LTR. **6814.**

Seeking

David Bowie Fan

This cute 25yo, GWM, needs a date to the Bowie/NIN concert at Shoreline on Saturday 10/21. Here is the deal: You pay for dinner and provide transportation, I provide reserved seat tickets. Cute vegetarian nonsmoker preferred but not required. **6813.**

Bookworm

Confession, I am 151lbs overweight, and I would rather read than go to the gym. However, this GWM, 43, 6', 193 is affectionate, warm hearted, hairy, expressive and humorous. **6812.**

Share Great Life!

Very handsome GWM, 35, 5'11", 150* seeks very good looking GWM/GAM 18-35 to enjoy life of leisure, travel and fun. Intelligence and honest e plus. **6811.**

Beyond The Ratrace

Hitty, HIV-, NS/ND, 46, retired, wants to explore life's basics - our spirits, bodies, commitments to loved ones, community, nature's creation with like minded guy. We're beyond the materialistic treadmill, affirm our natural intimacy and commitment. **6810.**

Buffed GWM 4 Quality GWM

Masculine muscled attractive & intelligent intensely spirited African-American exec seeks handsome versatile mature confident witty gym-toned Euro-American hunks. For sex laughs friendship, maybe more!!! **6809.**

GAM Seeks Other GAM

2B, clean shaven, in shape AM seeks similar AM for fun, loving, good time, and possibly relationship. **6808.**

Let's Fall In Love

Really want LTR with SF GWM top into romantic weekend evenings full of affection, humor, fun. We are sane, healthy, literate, monogamous, sharing. Moi: generous bottom GWM, 52, 5'11", 213lbs. **6807.**

Looking For That "Special Man"

To light up my life for "friendship" and if the "chemistry" is right a LTR. Me: 43yo, 5'10", 175*, hzl eyes, attractive, sincere, blk hair, humorous, thoughtful, drug free. You: 30-42, attractive, muscular, sensitive, humorous, smart, dark hair, a plus (Latin male) hairy, athletic, like music, dancing, outdoors. **6821.**

Love For A GAM

Ill, 52, handsome, 8'1", 200*, healthy seeks GWM for LTR. Any age, sexual pref. HIV status unimportant. I am very loving man for you to meet. **6905.**

Hopeless Romantic

Me: 50, 6'3", 290*, br/bl HIV- loves intimate moments, candlelight dinners, traveling & trips. Cuddly, loving, caring. You: GWM 30-45 slim to medium build with same interests. **6906.**

SF GAM Top Needed For LTR

With generous submissive bottom. You: younger, like eating out, drink, cuddling. You: healthy, happy, literate, educated, sexy, romantic. Me: GWM, 52, 5'11", 295lbs. **6907.**

This Guy Attracts Attention!!

32yo, 6', 175*, br/bl eyed stud. 50" shoulders, 43" chest, 31" waist. I am self-employed, stable, relationship material. You must be under 40, in shape, masculine, HIV-, ND, NS, I'm at a point now where I'll give it away for the right guy only. **6908.**

Dream Guy

WM, 40, tall and slender with long brown hair, clean shaven, normal weight. Tell me you like card games, TV, sports, lesbian erotic literature, gay films, religion or discussing dreams tonight. Let's be friends! **6909.**

30yr GWM Seeks Pen Pal

I'm looking for someone in their 30s who might enjoy writing back and fourth. I am incarcerated and am lonely at times. I have a heart, do you? **6910.**

Hi, My Name Is Michael

GWM, 32, 5'7", Jewish, professional, honest, happy, lean, hairy. Seeking lean 29-36, professional, able to communicate feelings, looking for LTR. **6911.**

Good Looking, An American, GWM

51yo young, seeks goodlooking, handsome GWM, into fun, friendship, even romance, LTR, mountain camping out. Looking for and finding gold, lots of gold. **6912.**

Passionate Nights W/ Top Latin

Very handsome and well toned, smooth, 24yo, 130*, 5'5", looking for GWM, very handsome and in shape, 6' to 32, blond brown, blue green eyes, healthy, happy, straight acting. HIV-. **6913.**

African-American Caucasian Alliance

This is a social club for professional males in an international, interracial group. We have Bi weekly meetings, card games, pot lucks, discussion, movies, etc. If interested in joining give Christopher a call. **6915.**

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Cute Young College Student

Honest responsible (ready) serious!! Blk \$ Filipino, 24, 6'6", 155*, seeks guys 24-37 white, Italian Latino's who are very good looking/cute HIV-, intelligent, honest, down to earth, enjoy beach walks, conversation, travel who are also easy going and know what you want & don't be afraid to communicate your feelings. Serious responses only!! **7003.**

Cub Seeks Cub

Cute GWM, 28, 5'3", 120*, bl/br, scruffy, creative, non-mainstream, communicative, assertive, kind. Seeks gentle cub, 27-34, (short and stocky preferred) into nature, spirituality, indie music, versatile, exploratory sex, intimacy, fun. NS, outside SF welcome. **6944.**

Athletic's Delight

Athletic Asian 47, 5'9", seeks clean-shaven, smooth gym-toned WM for adventurous companion into hiking, sports, workouts, ethnic foods, arts, travel, and sensual pleasures. **6952.**

21yo, Latino, 180 Fm

21yo, GLM, College student, cute, 5'10", 215*, rugby player, looking for 18-41yo GWM/GLM, top, for hot sexy fun times/ or a possible LTR. **6953.**

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Asians In Vallejo

GWM seeks Asian men for friendship and/or possible relationship. Interests include working out, music, films, dining. **7004.**

SF Top Sn Needed G/W/A/H

For hot bottom daddy, who's generous, submissive, loves weekend dates, dining, drinking, HIV+, healthy A+. You need me. I need you. Call your Daddy. Me: GWM, 52, 5'11", 214*. **7005.**

Attention: HIV+ Guys

I am a dark haired, clean shaven, Irish/German guy, 35+, 6'1", 185, professional, spiritual, romantic, passionate, healthy, sexually versatile, with lots of interests, looking for an interested partner. Please respond. **7006.**

Divine Chocolate

What makes me so sweet is the inside I am loving, caring, honest, trustworthy, monogamous versatile. I'm 5'9", 190*, stocky, hung. I seek communicative, honest, HIV-, monogamous under 45 for a friend. Sexual versatile a must. Contact Christopher. **7007.**

Beefy Or Stocky Musc Guy Wtd

This masc 38yr WM, nice lkg, w/ big musc legs, nice chest, musc. bubble butt, mustaches aka beefy/stocky musc, masculine guy for romance and fun times. (Humor, good kisser, masc A+) **7008.**

Are You A Musc Black Guy?

I'm a musc GWM 37 seeking a smooth well defined musc GWM to date. Pls be serious, no games or flakes. **7009.**

Let's Slide In Our Underwear

WM, HIV-, top, husky bear type, 40's, w/ hairy chest seeks Mexican/Latino, masculine, romantic, who desires to be loyal to one good man. Let's turn on the music, turn down the lights, take off our shirts, slow dance in our underwear & slide our bodies, lips & legs. **7039.**

GBM: HIV Mild Symptomatic
In good physical health with nice lean body. Solitary type, late thirtys. You: Fairly solid body no gut and a reasonably firm ass. Age unimportant but physical condition is!! **7010.**

"Love, Trust, Monogamy, Loyalty"

I admire the years of effort it takes to get that big bodybuilder physique. I'll give you years of commitment and adoration in return. Me: 39, HIV-, white, smooth, loving, attractive. **7011.**

Seeking Top Asian Boy

GWM, straight acting/looking, 29yo, 40, 6'8", 165*, bl/br, clean-shaven, 5'11" short hair and broad, 190*, & versatile. I'm looking for Vietnamese or Chinese boy under 30 w/ gangster boy looks. I like the cultures and love the looks. Call me. **7012.**

Passionate & Versatile

GWM, 40, 6'8", 109*, bl/br, clean-shave, hairy chest. U.R. tall, GWM, GLM, 35-50, also HIV-, non-smoker, romantic. **7013.**

Bottom Dad Seeks Mate

Bottoms/versatile GWM, 48, thirtyyo, 5'11" short hair and broad, 190*, any race. Age not critically important. **7014.**

Black & White J/O

175*, 5'10", mediterranean, BB short hair, beard, 7', wants macho black man for mutual contact & Org. Must be BB muscular & genuinely masculine. Hairy & big plus. This HIV- strong animal wants to kiss & play with our hard equipment. **7015.**

Young Boyish Queer

Cute, 22yo, vegetarian, facial piercing, hair by Tish & Snooky. Listens to Bjork, Deeele, enjoys art, music, dance, theatre, clubs seeking someone under 28 w/ similar interests or with more eclectic taste, piercing/tattoos a plus. **7016.**

Shower Servant

Straight acting lean WM 40 wants to be order by masculine young guy with a tight trim build to wash and lick your body in the shower. **7036.**

Goodlooking GWM 38 HIV+

180* 6', dark hair, and mustache, blue eyes and smooth body seeks other men who HIV+ for friendship and more. I like Latin and Asian men between 28-40. Please ND. NS. Only goodlooking men will get a response. **7037.**

Asian American Wanted

28yo GWM, 6', 205*, blue eyes, dark hair seeks down to earth Asian or part Asian to share good times with sense of humor required! Looks not as important as personality! **7038.**

Done A Lot Of Solo Work

On all levels of my being. Now I seek someone to grow with. Cute guy 30yo, 5'9", 175*, br/gr, Hung, uncut, HIV-, smooth, intelligent, mesomorph with great sense of humor. Seeks same in hirsute model. Into movies, working out & rock-roll. **7040.**

Seek SF Asian Top

For generous submissive bottom. You: probable younger than I, in weekend dining, drinking, hot sex. Want LTR with affection, love. Me: GWM, 52, 5'11", 219*. Seize the moment. **7041.**

Looking For Little Brother

Looking for fat or skinny boy to take to movies and outings. Me: 5'8", 150*, 26yo, affectionate, harmless. You any age, young looking, smooth. Don't by shy. I'll love you have fun with you. Spoil you. Discreet will travel. **7042.**

Not Your Typical

White washed GWM, 24, 5'8", muscular @ 170* Swimmer, runner and surfer dude. Homebody needing some serious loving attention. **7043.**

Over Sexed, Well Hung Bottom

GWM, 45, 135*, clean-cut, bottom looking for well hung butch top to fill the void in my life & to drill my tight hot ass. **7044.**

Seeking Adventure M-M

Wanted: Big Hairy Pecs

Tall lean hairy daddy w/ talented beard mouth will lick, lap, suck your big hairy muscular pecs/nips. Lean & defined to massive muscle. Big arms & pits lapped, nut licked, deep throat. Be masculine, stashed, hairy, arms & legs. Jewelry free. **6836.**

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BarTalk

Personals

are FREE!

You must use this form to submit ads. Use only the space provided. Do not attach additional paper or text. Deadline for ads is Wednesday, 5 pm, for the following week's issue. New ads will run for 3 consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. We reserve the right to edit ads.

Select One: ☐ Parting Glances ☐ Seeking Relationship M-M ☐ Seeking Adventure M-M ☐ Seeking Relationship W-W ☐ Seeking Adventure W-W ☐ Fetishes ☐ Couples ☐ Other

Name _____ Day Phone No. _____ Eve. Phone No. _____ Address _____ Apt No. _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Write your headline here: _____ (stop here)

Write the rest of the ad here: _____ (stop here)

Mail to: BarTalk, 395 Ninth St., SF CA 94103

PERSONALS

Span My Butt & Slay My Dick

Me: attrac GWM 43yo, 5'9", 150#, HIV-, into light SM/Leather/Safe butt play. You kinky, in shape, & HIV- **6935.**

Husky Men

Sought by good looking masculine WM. I will worship your cock and balls while you verbally abuse me & tell me what to do. One time or regular servicing. **6833.**

Oral Service

Discreet, healthy, gentle man provides special and complete oral appreciation for physically fit, uncut Asian or Latin **6832.**

Bubble Butt Admirer Wtd

I'm a beefy, in shape musc., WM 38yrs with big musc legs, nice chest, and musc bubble butt. Seeking a beefy/stocky, muscular masculine guy to play w/ my rdb bubble butt **6831.**

Free Quality Massage

to hot young guys who take good care of themselves. I'm 6'2", 178#, 42, masculine, goodlooking & give strong, safe, genuine, nurturing touch. Table. **6830.**

Any or All

Back packing, hiking, the out doors, spirituality, running, tennis, weekend trips, interesting restaurants, good times. I'm muscular & friendly. **UB2 6828.**

Horse Hung Handsome Thick Black Cocks

Straight acting, handsome, 5'8", 145#, 29" waist smooth, tanned Italian. Desperately needs to worship 1 or 2 hard bodied black studs. I will eagerly eat and receive your fantastic fuck sticks. No body wants you as bad as I do. I'll prove it. **6829.**

Hot Daddy In The South Bay
A hot daddy 40 to 50 in Sbay. Me: brn, blw, 225, 30. No drugs or bars, ferns. Let go uptown for coffee. Lets do it. **6824.**

BM In Need

Looking for BM muscular 6'1", and up. Bottom straight act'n for kink. I'm handsome but not fine or muscular. If looking for a different freak call. Sincere only! **6826.**

Visiting SF In November
Maryland GWM, 40, 6'2", 185, masculine, versatile, seeks hung GWM men of color for hot action and possible visit exchange. Thin bodied, skinny types turn me on, but if one of you endowed musclemen want to show me the error of my ways, please respond. No hard drugs. **6827.**

Liberty Call

Hot WM, musc stud, visiting, SF, 10/27-11/5, 28, 6', 180#, well endowed, masculine, versatile, model good looks, high-tight hair ISO similar WM stud, 20-35, to show me around & have some hot times. Interests: partying, leather, bodybuilding, trance & ambient music (raves), sex. Military, USMC guys a+. **6825.**

GWM, 31, Seeking

Muscular slave. Must be uninhibited exhibitionist. Love to feel your strong arms while you service me. Bigiceps a must. Do as you're told. Call me. **6823.**

Rugged, Horsehung, Brutally Straight Black Buck

Seeks blue collar Gorrilas to be my guest for weekend Tahoe getaway 10/21/95. Travis Tritt live at Caesar's. Construction workers, truckers, cowboy, rednecks encouraged to apply if you truly feel you're man enough to fill the position. Moustache mandatory. **6820.**

Fat Free

Butch top male, 6'1", 185#, muscular, Greek fuck active loves thin muscular guys. 18-35yo, w/ very low body fat for sexual adventure, possible relationship. Veiny arms and defined, rippling abdominal muscles are a major turn on. **6916.**

Hot Young Head Turner Seeks Same

GLM, 22, 5'8", 145#, b/bl, sinfully handsome, nice lean muscular physique w/ natural tan seeks a man 21-29yo w/ exceptional above average looks, body & mind. If you're a model, or just look like one, give me a call. You won't be disappointed. **6918.**

Grandfather Complex, Anyone?

Retired Ebay professional, very discreet and submissive, will provide regular service to a masculine younger guy of any race or color, married or bisexual preferred. Conventional or kinky. Available almost any time. **6919.**

6'4"-8'10"

I love to service tall, in shape, masculine stashed hairy men any age. 6' lean hairy daddy, masculine, massage pec work deep throat. **6931.**

Live Out Side San Francisco?

Want to meet men who lives outside the city to visit. I'm seeking new adventures, new environments, new friends. I'm muscular & friendly. **UB2 6926.**

Ass Massage Spunking

Teddy Bear Dad needs bottom Son. Me: attrac, GWM, 45, 6'5", 280#, football players build. You: attrac, GWM, 18-35, smooth to moderate body hair w/ nice buns. If you need your hungry butt taken care of call now! **6927.**

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Handsome Hung Blond

Seeks hot bottoms who are F/A and G/P for early morning fun. Let's get it up and get it in! I am game are you? **6922.**

Hairy Ass Arab

Good looking, g eyes is looking for experienced men to stretch his hairy hole. **7018.**

Butch Black Men In Uniform
28yo, masc., musc., GWM, 6', 190#, br/br, seeks gay/bi dominant black muscle guys for safe fun. Cops, Firemen, delivery men a+. Be under 40, HIV-. **6930.**

Midwesterner Visiting SF End Of Oct

Wants intense fuck sessions with really hairy top, facial a+. Me: younger looking 40yo, GWM, 6', 185#, clean shaven, fuzzy body, smooth ass and warm hole, great kisser. **6950.**

Brave Only

38, 5'11", 190, b/bl long hair tattoo(s) pierced PWA/KS seeks other outcast by disease, sero status, disability dysfunction for friendship, adventure, buddy, sex, or ? Live in Sonoma County. **6945.**

Blow Buddies

You were patronizing with the help. I was the help. I can't get you out of my head. Let's talk. **6947.**

Red and Black Flag On Left

Very hot top leatherman 42, 6'3", 200#, natural BB wants butch man/boy/slave/pig for bondage, mean whipping, greasy butt play, fisting in my equipped Castro playroom. You: shorter, big butt, goodlooking, in decent shape, flawed. **7047.**

Small Top Seeks Smaller Bottom

If you are under 45, under 5'6", under 150#, and oral/anal bottom this 5'7", 145#, 8" cut, shaved head goatee, semi hairy, 41yo top would like to check you out. **ND 7022.**

Hot Hairy Latino Ass

Looking for GWM tops who likes to plow my man's hole with big thick dick. Available on weekends all night. **7023.**

I'm Not A Marrying Man

5'8", 125#, smooth, swimmer's built clean shaving Italian, deep throat, big dick, hot tight ass, wanting hung, thick, adventures, fun men, no boy toys types. **MEN 7025.**

Consensual Victim

Sks, HIV-, SM master w/ dungeon, bondage & your way all the way, NHB, any age(4+ A+) race, top cpls, groups welcome. Good shape, 59, 5'11", 165#, beard, tats, subincision, hot ass, avid cocksucker, submits to relentless sadist, wide spectrum action. **7026.**

White Tops

GBM, 47, tall, swimmer's build is looking for white top's to give me a good butt pounding, tall men are a plus. **7046.**

Wanna Kick Ass?

Try it. WM, 48, 5'10", 170#, hairy, HIV- want to fight you for top, leather, etc. Rough wrestling, boxing, brawling. U be under 200 & tuff enough. A man fight for total control. Limits respected. **7052.**

Hot, Hung, Horny

5'9", 165#, 35yo Mex. w/ a whole lot to offer seeks fit studs 20's to 40's to full service me you'll be rewarded. Hot attitude A+. **7049.**

Hot & Horny Well Hung Bottom

GWM, 45, 135#, clean cut lovable bottom needs well hung butch top for hot oral & anal sex. I need your dick Sir. **7053.**

Man's Man

Need WM over 30 very verbal instructor, give orders to first time gummer wants to learn fine art. Can you teach. **7054.**

Str8, Bi-Curious

School football player or wrestler, WM, 18-23, smooth wanted to receive sports massage? Videos to watch. One time or many. Between girlfriends? Discreet. No obligation. **7059.**

Beet Spanking In SF

Big daddy bear gives great spankings. Have playroom with straps, paddles, belts, canes. Very experienced, safe, sane. Not brutal. Fantasies fulfilled. Limits respected. **7056.**

San Jose Spanking

Bend over and drop your jockeys, bad boy! Handsome big brother, 39, gives young men (18-30) the erotic butt reddening the neck. Novices OK. Model-looks not required, but serious only. **6935.**

Big Pecs/Nipples Wtd

I'm a 37yo WM, beefy, musc. guy nice lkg who's seeking a masculine guy, masc w/ big pecs/nipples to suck on, milk them dry. Love to suck on nipples that are hard. Any race. **6936.**

Dentures?

Looking for older men with dentures who like to give head. I'm a nice, clean-cut guy. Please reply and leave phone number. Thanks. **6937.**

Mutual Dildo Play W/ Big Men

GBM, 5'11", 230#, seek big stocky, fat men who enjoy long intense "give and take" dildo encounters. **6938.**

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Barefoot

Lifelong excitement looking at & fantasizing about men's barefeet. Very aroused, sensually & sexually by kissing, licking, smelling, caressing barefeet in reciprocal action & JO. Gdlooking Ebay, GWM, 5'8", 140#, tan, bearded, HIV-, NA, ND, EB. Preferred. **6939.**

Short Bodybuilders

Tall lean hairy daddy ISO short very built hairy or naturally smooth, not shaved, very hunky stashed butch BBS who dig oral service, Pecs, balls, cock. Smaller dick size not a problem if super built. **6951.**

Spandex Tight Fetish

ISO someone into spandex, lycra, ballet tights for intense mutual groping and pleasure. Hairy GLM, 44, 175#, not a crossdresser, a serious spandex tights fetish. **7030.**

Small Cocks Turn Me On!

Tall attractive WM, 33yo, bl eyes wants to take care of you. Relax & let me treat you like the man you are. Call now, I'm waiting for you. **7031.**

"Smelly Holes Turn Me On"

I love to smell a real ripe funky ass hole while I jack off. I'm into toilet sex, man smells and finger fucking wet holes. I'm HIV- enjoys spanking guys too. Latinos A+. **7055.**

J/O W/ Pants Pulled Down

GWM 40's likes pulling down my pants in front of other men (over 30yo). Unhookable your belt, open your fly, stroke yourself inside your shorts (boxers/jockeys). Drop your pants (jean/slacks) & J/O w/ your pants and shorts around your legs. Suits A+. **7057.**

Pro Football Fan

Seeks another to watch games together, get horny, share half time and post game activities. No fats, ND. Me: GWM, 42, top/butt, 8" cut, condoms. **6941.**

Single Redhead

34, 5'10", 170#, enjoys talk radio, exercise the outdoors and reading. Ex-Navy clerk in Petaluma, Santa Rosa native. Seeks female companionship. **6942.**

Seeking Tennis Partner

28yo male plays advanced level tennis. Seeking male or female on comparable level to play tennis. **7032.**

Couples

Couple Sought
To fill GWM, 50, great shape. You are secure with having a sexual friend in your life, 45+. **6940.**

GWM Seeks FWF

GWM, 34, educated, fun loving, seeks similar GWF for mutually adventurous relationship. **7060.**

The Hottest Guy In Town

Even the Hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play Safe! Protect yourself & those you Play with. Always wear a condom, don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+ don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone. **SAFE.**

1-900-844-2227

Still Only 98¢ Per Minute To Respond To Ads!

Available Only in the Bay Area on Touch-Tone Telephones. You Must Be at Least 18Y/O to Call.
Due to the substantial increase in subscribers to BarTalk, we must now limit one ad per customer per week.

Seeking Freaky Huge Nipples

Musc, GWM, 37, seeks a musc guy w/ huge protruding nipples to date/service on a reg basis pls be serious. **6923.**

Latino Seeks Blond Buddy

37yo Latino man 6', 215#, HIV-, looking for a 18-35yo blond top HIV- for a hot safe time. No fats or ferns, slim a+. Call me! **6924.**

Muscle Sex

Handsome muscular Asian male 32, 175#, 5'11", HIV- seeks partner for intense workout and fun. If you are a hunk living btw Redwood City and Mountain View, Call! **6921.**

Hot Wax Top

Seeks a hot leather bottom boy for intense play. Must be under 40 and willing to give it your all. WS, hot wax bondage a must. Uncut a+ or 7 a+. Hairy preferred. GWM/GLM desired. Call me! **6925.**

Buffed Butch Bottom Guys

You work out hard to create a body that scream "I'm a top!", but secretly you long for a hot, hung, experienced black top man like me. I'm discreet, honest and available. Call soon. **6928.**

Mature Chubby Seeks Mature Chaser

GWM, late 50's, 6', 265#, short silver hair goatee, goodlooking. You: a+ race, lover of tits, big nipples. Uncut a+ **6929.**

J.O. Men

Hairy mouth looking for in shape or built JO men with large hairy balls or huge smooth balls that really dig having their nuts licked real good while they JO. Loads out. Be butch, stashed, hairy preferred, expert head available. **7024.**

21 yo Latino ISO Some Fun

21yo, GLM, college student, Cute, 5'10", 215#, rugby player, looking for (18-41) yo GWM/GLM, top for hot sexy fun times & or a possible LTR. **6953.**

Fuck Master

Greek active male, 6'1", 185#, 35yrs, HIV-, muscular physique like to plow butt of ectomorph, thin very musc guy. Washboard abdominals and curvaceous biceps are major turn-on. **7016.**

Dominant Dad

Needs boyslave who wants to care for a Daddy. Serve because you respect & are dedicated to your man. SM, bondage, rituals, ownership & all it implies. **7017.**

Attn: San Jose Area

Will you drain this fat black hose dry? Non-BB, bi, 50's, 180#, smoke/drink ok. No drugs. **7019.**

Spread 'em

GWM, husky, 52, seeks young guy with hairy butt who likes to have it licked. Married, uncut, ok. Ebay, discreet. No reced necessary. **7020.**

Middle Eastern

Is seeking for a part time position as a slave. Master must be very serious and naturally a top, bully & aggressive. Slave is handsome, hairy, submissive. **7021.**

Aggressive Attrc Top

5'10", 178#, looking for submissive hot attrc bottom 18-28yo who is horny and ready to play hard hot sex. **7029.**

GWM HIV+ Top Sought

By healthy HIV+ GBM bottom 35, 175#, 5'11". Tell me how you want me to take it. **7045.**

Great Kisser! Hot Mouth!

Gdkg, GWM, 29, 5'9", 170#, works out seeks gdkg, GWM/B/WM for long, hot frenching sessions, oral service, licking, JO, anything oral, safe, sensual. Let's make out and more! **7027.**

Water, Water, Everywhere

Handsome, hung, healthy, toned GWM, 29, 6'1", 170#, seeks 30-50 healthy and hung WM tops into hot wet sports. NS, ND. Endurance sessions. **7028.**

Sexy Young Tops

Young studs any race to teach the pleasure of being a bottom to a sexy 30's blond with great butt. You and a friend could be hot. Dick size doesn't matter, imagination, patience and desire does. Can you make this very tight ass beg for more? I'm very oral. **7048.**

Horse Hung Men Only

Masc. Mature, husky GWM with unusual 7x8 cock, heavy duty PA and nipple rings. I'm seeking only guys with huge meat for mutual fun. Age and race not important, the size of your dick is. The bigger the better. **7050.**

Let's Just Do It

Too busy to waste endless hours cruising? Me too. Very attractive, slender, 6', 145#, 32yo, mostly bottom, HIV+, healthy, GWM, wants discreet attractive f-k buddy for unhabited good times. **7051.**

The Hottest Guy In Town

Even the Hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play Safe! Protect yourself & those you Play with. Always wear a condom, don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+ don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone. **SAFE.**

Fetishes

Head Shaves

BM, 32, cut thick. Looking for men 18-45 willing to have your head shaved bald and be very oral. Serious only. **6948.**

Shoot Your Load Wash Off With GS

Straight WM 50's seeks masculine looking hung cut older male or TS or TV to jack off on my face then wash cum off with GS. Bonus points if you can bring girl or TS to watch and/or join in. **6834.**

Neg Bear Love Pump & Visual Show Off

5'9", brn/bm, hairy beard must, football build, hung & horny, completely safe. AIDS care giver w/ limited time. Russian River area. Does hot visuals, J/O, initiated to joys of vacuum pumps. Also creams over self suckers. **6932.**

Piss Action

Hot, horny male, early 30's seeks same (20-35) for wet and wild one-on-one or group WS action. Asians, Latinos, uncut men a+. **6933.**

Uniforms & Leather Get Me Hot

Blond, flat top, stash, 40, 5'9", 140#, HIV-. Very sexy seeks police, fireman, guards & butch studs w/ few hung ups and good attitudes and fit bodies. Discretion assured. **6934.**

Nude M2M Wrestling

Rough, aggressive, sweat, rule-free matches in private mirrored gym sought by tough, muscled, hairy, grappler, 5'8", 153#. Sex not necessary, just sweaty naked ring action. Vicious hairy, experienced opponents. **6949.**

THIS WEEK

Wanna Submit?

Send calendar listings to:

This Week
Bay Area Reporter
395 9th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Thursday before issue date.

Friday 20

Autumn Canticle

Eureka Theater Co. presents David Ogden Stiers and Leo Downey as musical and life partners in John W. Lowell's play, Thurs.-Sat. thru 10/28. \$20-22.50. 8pm. First Congregational Church, Post and Mason. 243-9895.

Bolero

Oakland Ballet's reconstruction of Nijinska's *Bolero* to the Ravel score. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. \$8-32. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 762-2277.

Dog Opera

Stephanie Hunt and Brian Thorntonson are best friends in Constance Congdon's sexy comedy, Wed.-Sun. thru 10/29. \$17-23. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

A Hole in the World

Deborah Slater & Co. use ritual, storytelling, Klesmer and jazz music to explore the experience of a loved one dying. Thurs.-Sat. thru 10/21. \$12. 8pm. 450 Geary Studio Theater. 673-1172.

Inside Straight

Two gay men and two lesbians preoccupy luck-drawn love. Fri. & Sat. thru 11/18. \$12. 9pm. Marilyn Monroe Mem'l Theatre, 96 Lafayette. 552-3034.

Long Journey Home

Womyn of Color in performance art, poetry and music. Fri. & Sat.-womyn of color only at 8pm. \$10, 2 for \$15. Luna Sea, 2940 16th St. 863-2989.

Mission Voices

Photographic exploration of the lives of several Mission youth. Thurs.-Sat. thru 10/27. call for times. Collision, 417 14th St. 431-4074.

Mona Rogers In Person

Helen Shumaker is back for 10th anniversary of her solo show, written by Philip-Dimitri Galas. Thurs.-Sun. thru 11/26, various times. \$16-18. 8pm. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-TIXS.

Patience

Lamplighters Music Theatre presents Gilbert & Sullivan. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. Sun. at 2pm thru 11/5. \$23. Lindland Theatre, 175 Phelan. 227-0331.

Redressa: Cowgirl of the Open Plains

Lusty whippin' cowgirl from Texas finds love in new comedy written and performed by Grace Walcott. Fridays thru 10/27. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

The Talking Cure

Suzie Berger in her new one-woman comedy. Wed.-Sun. thru 10/29. \$12. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Trailers

Performances by Joanna Haigood/ZACCHO with Remy Charlip, Joe Goode Perf. Group, Robt. Henry Johnson Co., others. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. \$12. ZACCHO Studio, Serta Bldg., 1777 Yosemite. 822-6744.

Veronica's Room

Ira Levin's suspense-thriller features Flynn, Trauma Jo Flintstone, Robin Huntington and Elizabeth Nafpaktitis. Fri. & Sat. at 10pm thru 11/11. \$12. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St. 626-6422.

Saturday 21

Bernal Heights Party

Benefit for Roberta Achtenberg. 1pm. Wild Side West, 424 Cortland. 282-0816.

Diva Las Vegas

The High Brow Society's 14th Annual Charity Costume/ Drag Ball, benefits AIDS Legal Referral. Cross-dressing mandatory. \$35 advance, \$40 door. 8pm. Eureka Valley Rec Center, 100 Collingwood. 487-7600.

Folsom Compound

Five queer-identified women artists' open studios: Max L.

White, Dawn Lewis, Nance Paternoster, Liz Roth, Liz Zivic. Sat. & Sun., 11am-6pm. 893 Folsom. 495-6247.

Gay Comedy Night

Marilyn Pittman, Scott Capurro, Suzy Berger. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Lesbian Sacred Sexuality

Photographer and author Marcelina Martin speaks about her book, free. 5pm. Good Vibrations, 1210 Valencia. 974-8985.

Amy X Neuberg & Men

Electro-pop ensemble celebrates release of *Utchma* with a concert. \$8. 10pm. Icon Byte Bar, 297 9th St. 861-2983.

Open Studios

Artists open their workspaces South of Market, East of Hwy 101: Civic Center, SoMa, Potrero Hill, Bayview. Sat. & Sun., 11am-6pm. 861-9838.

Puss 'N Boots

Hima B's "Straight for the Money: Interviews with Queer Sex Workers," Carolyn Koebel's "Puss! The Booted Cat" and more. \$5. 8:30pm. ATA, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

Stairway Walk

Adah Bakalinsky, author of *Stairway Walks in San Francisco*, leads free walking tour. 2pm. Books Inc., 3515 California. 221-3666.

Trotsky and Frida

A Traveling Jewish Theatre presents the encounter between two legends. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm. Sun. at 2&7pm thru 10/22. \$12.50-16.50. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida. 621-7797.

Sunday 22

GAWK Writers Workshop

Gay/bi writers of fiction, poetry, drama, journalism and performance. 2:30pm. Call for location. 731-2424.

Mary's Unplugged

Ripple, Connie Champagne's

alter ego rock band, free. 9pm. Hamburger Mary's, 1582 Folsom. 626-1985.

Dan Nicoletta, Cathy Cade

Two noted photographers, Inaugural Exhibition at new offices of Gay & Lesbian Historical Society of No. Calif. Sat. & Sun., 2-5pm thru 11/12. 973 Market, 4th fl. 775-5455.

Photos by Biron

Photographs from new issue of GRUF (Great Unshaven Faces) mag. Thru 10/30 at Lone Star Saloon, 1354 Harrison.

Tomboys!

"Tales of Dyke Derring-do" DJ Junkyard and contributors Ann McClintock, Marianne Dresser, Giovanna Capone, Sally Miller Gearhart share their tales. Judge tomboy drag contest, benefits Old Wives Tales. \$5. 10pm. MuffDive at CW Saloon, 917 Folsom. 821-4675.

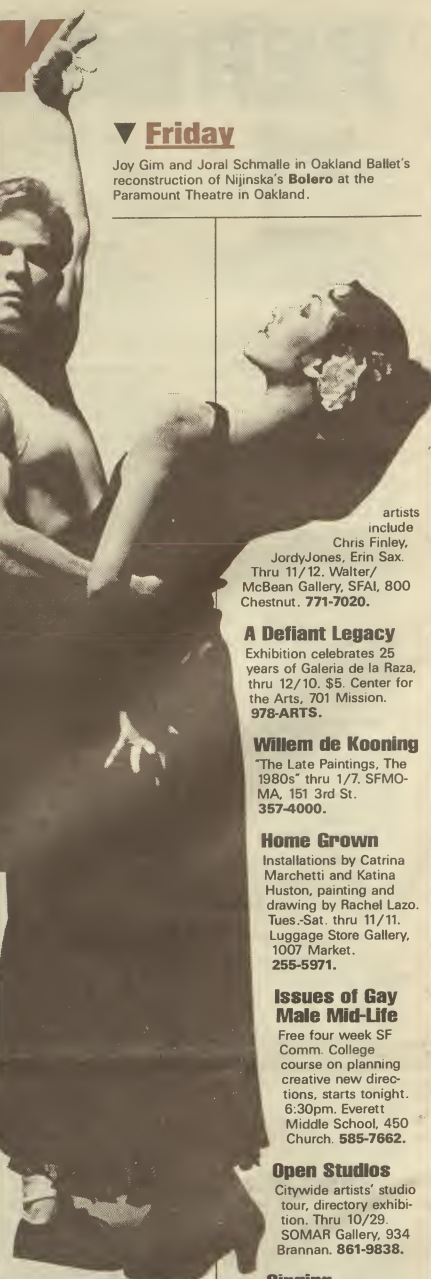
Monday 23

Acquainted with the Night

NYC photographer Lynn Saville's prints of nighttime scenes, thru 11/10. Downstairs Gallery, UC Extension Center, 55 Laguna. 252-5221.

Day Dreams

Photographs of surreal reverie by Ken Leaf, thru Oct. Mad



Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

M.C. Karen Ripley. Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

History on Fabric

"20 Years of T-Shirts," a storefront window exhibit by Gay & Lesbian Historical Society of No. Calif. High Gear, 600 Castro.

Mark Morris

City Arts & Lectures and The Threepenny Review present an onstage conversation with the choreographer. \$15. 8pm. Herbst Theatre, Van Ness at McAllister. 392-4400.

Quiz Bang

Gay trivia game show, every Mon thru 10/30. \$10. 8pm. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-TIXS.

Tuesday 24

Castro Folkdancers

Beginning folkdance lessons, 7:30pm. Eureka Valley Rec Center, Collingwood at 18th St. 641-7350.

Contact

The 114th Annual Exhibition at San Francisco Art Institute,

Friday

Joy Gim and Joral Schmale in Oakland Ballet's reconstruction of Nijinska's *Bolero* at the Paramount Theatre in Oakland.

artists include
Chris Finley,
Jordy Jones, Erin Sax.
Thru 11/12. Walter/
McBean Gallery, SFAI, 800
Chestnut. 771-7020.

A Defiant Legacy

Exhibition celebrates 25 years of Galeria de la Raza, thru 12/10. \$5. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Willem de Kooning

"The Late Paintings, The 1980s" thru 1/7. SFMO-MA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Home Grown

Installations by Catrina Marchetti and Katina Huston, painting and drawing by Rachel Lazo. Tues.-Sat. thru 11/11. Luggage Store Gallery, 1007 Market. 255-5971.

Issues of Gay Male Mid-Life

Free four week SF Comm. College course on planning creative new directions, starts tonight. 6:30pm. Everett Middle School, 450 Church. 585-7662.

Open Studios

Citywide artists' studio tour, directory exhibition. Thru 10/29. SOMAR Gallery, 934 Brannan. 861-9838.

Singing for Suppers

Pippy Lovestocking and Hekina host karaoke party fundraiser for Project Open Hand, no cover. 9pm. Mint, 1942 Market. 626-4726.

State Fair

Rodgers & Hammerstein's musical, starring John Davidson. Tues.-Sun. thru 10/28; call for times. \$15-55. Golden Gate Theatre, Taylor at Market. 474-3800.

A Tuna Christmas

Joe Sears and Jason Williams in the sequel to *Greater Tuna*. Tues.-Sun. thru 10/28; call for prices and times. Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter. 771-6900.

Wednesday 25

Arcadia

ACT presents Tom Stoppard's play set in two time periods in an English country estate. Tues.-Sun. at various times thru 11/26, tonight at 8pm. \$15-41. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason. 749-2ACT.

Asia/America

"Identities in Contemporary Asian-American Art" exhibition. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/10. \$5. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Calm, Cool and Collected

Exhibition of works by



▲ Saturday

Scene from Carolyn Koebel's "Puss! The Booted Cat," part of *Puss 'N Boots* at ATA Gallery.



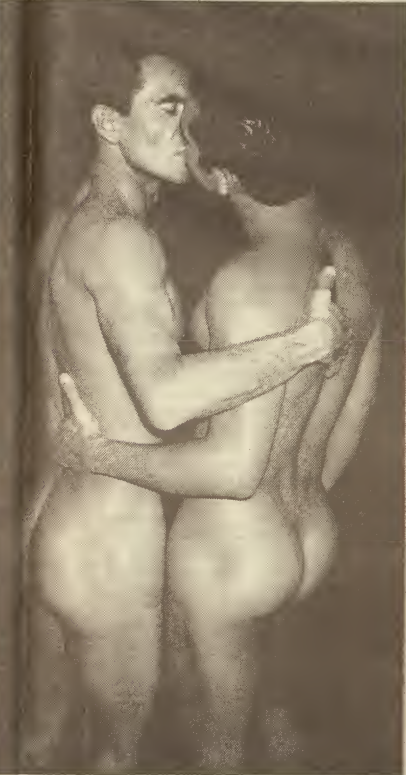
Sunday

Diane F. Germain, early '50s, Burlington VT. Contributors to **Tomboys!** share their tales of dyke derring-do at MuffDive at CW Saloon.

Timothy B. Buckwalter and
Vinnie Angel. Wed-Sat. thru
10/28. Four Walls, 3160 A
16th St. 626-8515.

Dorothy's Room
Rebeca Bollinger's installation

reconstructs the lobby of the
Fairmont Hotel. With "Fifteen
Minute Fix" by Malik
Johnson, "ATTENTION" by
Lyla Rye. Wed-Sat. thru
11/4. Southern Exposure,
401 Alabama. 863-2141.



Sunday

Photos by **Biron** from the new issue of GRUF, at the Lone Star
Saloon.

Facing Eden
"100 Years of Landscape Art
in the Bay Area" Wed-Sun.
thru 11/26. \$5. deYoung
Museum, Golden Gate Park.
863-3330.

GAWK
Jon Sugar hosts the Gay
Artists and Writers Collective
in readings. 7pm. Glen Park
Books, 2788 Diamond.
586-3733.

Gay Skate
Rink full of queers on roller-
skates. \$5 includes skates
rental. 8-10:30pm. Rolladium
Roller Rink, 363 North
Amphlett, San Mateo.
1-800-473-8658.

**The Gospel
According to the
Angel Julius**
Musical comedy by harpist
Jack Pantaleo, benefits The
Family Link, others. Thru
10/28. \$15. 7:30pm.
Bayfront Theater, Fort Mason.
584-3907.

Millennium Coming
"The New Degenerate Art
Show" curated by Michelle
Rollman and Chris Komater.
Judi Bamber, Jerome Caja,
Meg Mack, Keith Mayerson,
Barry McGee, more. The
LAB, 2948 16th St.
346-4063.

**Paisley Goes With
Nothing**
Hal Rubenstein reads from
his humorous look at male
fashion, free. 7:30pm. A
Different Light, 489 Castro.
431-0891.

POWER
Program for Wellness
Restoration workshop to
reverse AIDS wasting, free.
7pm. Hotel Monaco, 501
Geary. 252-5700.

Agustin Pozo
Mixed media assemblages.
Thru 11/30, call for times, at
Bucheon Gallery on Vallejo,
2537 Vallejo. 863-2891.

**Tambourines
To Glory**
Langston Hughes' rousing
Gospel musical, directed by
Danny Duncan, opens
tonight. Thurs-Sun. thru
11/19, call for times. \$18-22.
8pm. Lorraine Hansberry
Theatre, 620 Sutter.
474-8800.

**Tracing
Cultures**
Cultural migration and
change through photography.
Thru 11/5. \$4. Ansel Adams
Center for Photography, 250
4th St. 495-7000.

Urban Scrawl
JoNelle Toniseva and Sarah
Brown teach 8-week memoir
workshop, begins tonight,
7pm. \$100-150. Build, 483
Guerrero. 863-3041.

**Shirley
Valentine**
Elizabeth Benedict stars as
an English housewife who
breaks out of the mold.
Wed-Sun. thru 12/3. \$15.
8pm. Mason Street Theatre,
340 Mason. 982-5463.

Thursday 26

Alive Drawing
Danielle Abrams, in conjunc-
tion with the Harvey Milk
Institute of Lesbian, Gay,
Bisexual and Transgender
Studies, teaches seven-week
art class, starts tonight.
\$100. 7pm. Build, 483
Guerrero. 552-7200.

**The Apparitional
Lesbian**
Terry Castle discusses, free.
7:30pm. A Different Light,
489 Castro. 431-0891.

Bingo
Gay bingo benefits Coming
Home Hospice, every Thurs.
\$12. Doors 6pm. Most Holy
Redeemer Church, 100
Diamond St. 241-0425.

**Shelley Hodes,
Elizabeth Swisher**
Two local artists show their
new work, alternative
process and mixed media
photography. Thru 10/29.
RayKo Photo Center, 2423
Polk. 567-9065.

Hole
Group show with Arthur
Tress, Robin Lasser, Rudy
Lemcke, others, curated by
Richard Titus. Thru 11/28.
Artificial Gallery, 323 Noe.

Honoring Our Own
Ellas en Accion hosts their
1st annual awards banquet
to honor the achievements of
Latina lesbians and bisexuals.
6:30pm. Call for tickets.
985-7777.


The Male Figure
Vinyl paintings and drawings
of the male body by Rick
Herold. Thru 11/2. Naked
Gallery, 355 Bryant, Loft 110.
284-0567.

**Nightmare
at the Kabuki**
Cocktails, killer costumes,
performances, horror movie
trailers. *Berserk* with mean
Joan Crawford. Tom
Ammiano, JJ Blakk, Scott
O'Hara, others. \$25 w/recep-
tion (7pm). \$20 w/out (8pm).
AMC Kabuki 8 Theatres,
1881 Post. 437-5794.

**Suzanne
Westenhoef**
Out lesbian stand-up comic.
\$16.50. 8pm. Luther Burbank
Center for the Arts, 50 Mark
West Springs Road, Santa
Rosa. (707) 546-3600.

**Women
With Balls**
Showcase for women stand-
up comics, every Thurs. 8pm.
Cat's Grill and Alley Club,
1190 Folsom. 431-3332.

This Week's Dinner Specials



- Grilled Fresh Salmon
on a bed of linguini with baby clams-
white wine sauce.....9.75
- Penne Pasta with chicken &
Rock Shrimp, light tomato-basil
cream sauce.....9.75
- Grilled 12-oz N.Y Steak or
N.Y. Pepper Steak served with
fettuccini alfredo.....12.95
- Grilled Center-Cut Pork Chops
with apple-raisin dressing,
mashed potatoes and gravy.....9.25

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Caroline Bates,
Gourmet Magazine

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Janet Hazen, *SF Bay Guardian*

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to tell everyone."
Barbara Lane, *SF Weekly*



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that could make even Bette Midler
blush."
- Michael Musto *New York Daily News*


October 26
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In Conversation with Wendy Lesser
Monday, October 23 - 8 pm
Herbst Theatre, San Francisco



FAYE DUNAWAY
In Conversation with Edward Guthmann
Wed., November 8 - 8 pm
Herbst Theatre, San Francisco



GORE VIDAL
In Conversation with Wendy Lesser
Mon., November 20 - 8 pm • Masonic Auditorium, San Francisco
Reserved Tickets: \$15 • City Box Office (415) 392-4400
Presented by City Arts & Lectures, Inc.

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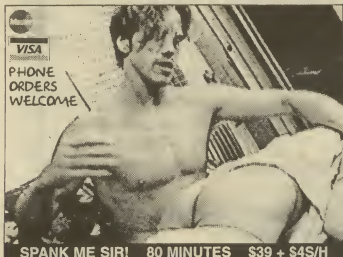
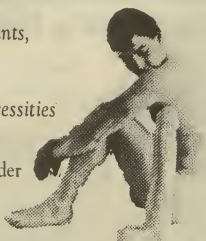
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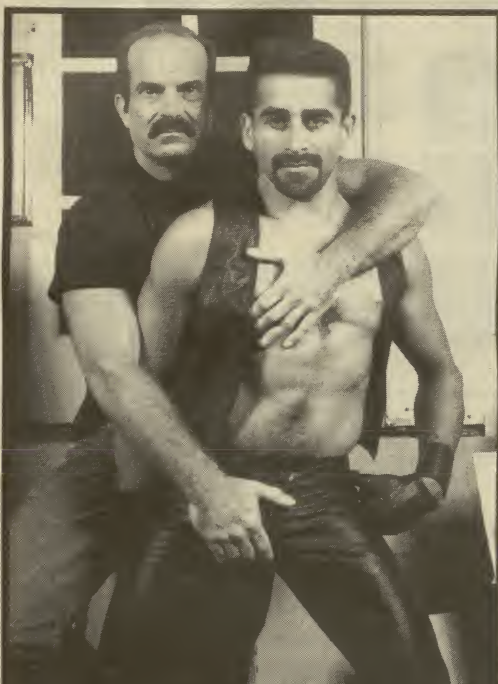
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BAY AREA REPORTER BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS



Photo: Mr. Marcus

Your leather leaders (L. to R.): Don Bastian, Mr. NLA Intl; Mr. Fantasy '95 J.D. Buchert; IML. Pat Baile; Intl. Mr. Drummer David Walker; Martijn Bakker, Drummer publisher; IML Larry Everett; Intl. Mr. Deaf Leather; Intl. Master Tom Stice. Kneeling: American Leather Woman Sarah Humble; Intl. Slave Jack Stice. What will they say about smears from the Log Cabin?

Sweatin' Bullets in Palm Springs; Enemies In Our Own Backyard

The leather community in Palm Springs makes its debut in the wide world of leather sashdom Nov. 3-5, when the Palm Springs Leather Order of the Desert (PS/LOD) stages "Sweatin' Bullets," a leather gathering co-sponsored by Wolfs Den and The Villa.

The weekend starts Friday night (from 2200 to 0100) with a \$5 beerbust at Wolfs in Cathedral City; Saturday afternoon, a leathermart will be in progress from 1100 to 1700, followed by a barbecue from Noon to 1600, with vendors (including John Ponce's great jewelry and esoteric items from Toys for Tops) who will hawk their wares throughout the weekend.

The preliminary judging for Mr. Palm Springs Leather begins during the afternoon event, and I'm proud to join judges: Al Reese and Richard Reynolds, both of San Diego; former IML "Iron" Mike Pereyra; former Intl. Mr. Drummer Steve Reiswig; Mr. C.C. Construction Co. Buck Franco; and Duane Parmanter, both of Palm Springs, for all the fun.

Beginning at 2200 on Saturday night at Wolfs Den, the Mr. Palm Springs finals begin. There will be demonstrations, food and raffle prizes for several items, including two VIP weekend packages to IML '96 and Intl. Mr. Drummer '96.

The winner of the first Mr. Palm Springs Leather title will travel to Chicago next Memorial Day weekend to compete for the IML '96 title; he'll be first leatherman to represent Palm Springs in Chicago.

For those of you who are sticklers for accuracy, D. Cannon (a permanent resident of Los Angeles) won the Mr. C.C. Construction Co. Leather title in 1991. Later, he was co-sponsored by Wayne's Leather Rack in LA when he competed and won the IML '91 title. In 1994, the C.C. Construction Co. fielded the very



Photo: Mr. Marcus

Paul Maionchi, Mr. Southbay Leather for the last three years gives up his title this Saturday, Oct. 20, at the San Jose/Southbay Leather competition.

hot Buck Franco at IML '95. My sources tell me CCC Co. will not hold a contest this year. Mr. Palm Springs Leather will be the official sponsor of this title henceforth — a community effort. If you need more info., call Ed Keller (619) 325-8107, or fax him on (619) 323-9580. Palm Springs is nice in November, and a UAL flight to Ontario is only \$81.

Enemies within

Believe it or not, a real live queer uttered the following words: "I have no problem with drag or leather, but I don't think it's a civilly protected right to do it," and "I think there are certain elements of our community of which their behavior need not be civilly

protected." The person who uttered these words — and rather ineptly at that — was David Greer, National Director of Public Affairs for the Log Cabin Republicans in a Sept. 27 interview with *San Francisco Frontiers*. As if this weren't enough, he muddled the waters by comparing drag and leather with the KKK, calling them extremist forms of behavior that "show contempt for mainstream society." All this in the name of diversity!

Further, it has been pointed out that the current International Mr. Leather, Larry Everett, is a registered Republican, and that he "allegedly" attended a Log Cabin dinner/function during Leather Pride Week. Yes, he did. But, in reality, Mr. Everett finds the Log Cabiners "divisive," and he only attended the event as a guest. Larry is not a Log Cabin member and he questions the wisdom of the massive blunder the Gay Republicans made when they sent money to Bob Dole's campaign, money that was returned pronto to appease his homophobic supporters.

The above statements by Mr. Greer were supposedly made Sept. 27, after SF Leather Pride Week. Clearly, the gauntlet has been thrown down. Our "spokespersons" must challenge La Greer, whose comments seem to indicate he is out of touch with reality. Now is the time for our "leaders" to refute these misguided statements.

And who are our spokespersons? Intl. Mr. Leather Larry Everett; Intl. Ms. Leather Pat Baile; Intl. Mr. Drummer David Walker; and, of course, the co-chairs of the National Leather Association, Mark Frazier of Dallas and K.T. Chase of Portland. Many leather devotees are waiting to hear what our leaders have to say about this and what course of action they plan to take.

Since a lot of leatherpeople were in Reno for the Silver State Leather Association's weekend

Eventures in Leather

All phone numbers are in the 415 area code unless otherwise indicated.

Weekend, Oct. 19-22

The Circle Bar in Washington, D.C., is the site of the American Brotherhood Weekend, where the American Leather Man/Woman/Cowboy/Cowgirl/Boy contests will take place (featuring a leather fetish market and scads of public and private parties). The Ramada Plaza is the main site for all this hoopla. If you're going, call (202) 332-3902.

In San Jose, the "Garden of Earthly Delights" leather extravaganza - with the selection of Mr./Ms. San Jose/Southbay Leather on Saturday night, Oct. 21 - takes place at the Genesis Sanctuary for the Fine Arts, 1068 The Alameda. The \$45 "package" price includes sample fetish and fantasy performances, motorcycle runs, auctions and leather. For complete details call (408) 243-0116.

Friday, Oct. 20

Free anonymous HIV testing at 933 Harrison (upstairs). Open to everyone from 2200 to half-past midnight. A great community service from the AIDS Health Project and Brad Grant.

Saturday, Oct. 21

Hood parties are growing in popularity; there's another one today at the Jackhammer, with a \$5 beer bust from 1700 to 2000.

Sunday, Oct. 22

Cal Eagles MC hosts the beer bust, with food, at the Eagle. Admission is \$8. Always a fun time with this group that's raising funds for

SFGH Ward 5A and the Forum Toy Drive. Great causes, indeed.

Tuesday, Oct. 24

The annual SF Eagle Pumpkin Carving Contest at 8 p.m., with cash prizes in three categories for the most imaginative jack-o'-lanterns.

Weekend, Oct. 27-29

Knights of Malta's third annual Salem's Lot III at Pigeon Point Lighthouse. Add \$19.99 to the \$49.99 price if you go down there on Friday night. Fee includes hot tub soaking, pumpkin carving, climbing the lighthouse tower, a sumptuous feast and fun-filled terror. Rave reviews from the previous outings. Call 863-4706 or 864-4307. This is an alcohol-free outing, so Sweet Lips will not be in attendance!

Friday, Oct. 27

Annual Leather & Feathers Halloween costume competition at the SF-Eagle at 2100 - \$100 cash prizes in three categories: Most Humorous, Best in Theme and Best Group. Always fun!

Saturday, Oct. 28

Head-shaving party and \$5 beer bust at the Jackhammer from 1800 to 1900, with \$1 schnapps. Rivaling the hood parties in popularity!

The 15 Association's monthly play party (\$10, BYOB). For any and all details, call Peter at 673-0452.

Sunday, Oct. 29

Black & White Men Together's beer bust and weenie roast at the Lone Star saloon, noon-1600, only \$6. It's also a potluck, so bring your fave dish

and dish those who didn't show up!

Tuesday, Oct. 31

Goblins, witches and other creepies are out tonight. When's the last time you had a three-way on Halloween? Join others at the Folsom Menage a Trois (Powerhouse, My Place and Hole in the Wall) beer busts. No fee was mentioned, but all three are within walking distance of each other. Sounds like great fun!

Weekend, Nov. 3-5

IML '95 Larry Everett will pass his 1994 Mr. Oklahoma Leather sash this weekend at the Silver Star Bar in Tulsa, Okla., and Mr. Oklahoma State Leather '95 will be selected. Oklahoma, OK!

In the Palm Springs area, the first Mr. Palm Springs Leather will be chosen on Saturday night at Wolf's Den at 2200. It's also the Palm Springs Rodeo weekend, so there will be much roping and riding all over the area.

It's supposed to be Leather Weekend up in Guerneville (and the sashing of Mr. Russian River Leather '95), but I haven't heard a word from whoever is putting it on. Taylor Poff? St. Clair Adams? Hello?

Wednesday, Nov. 8

Wet Wednesday at 933 Harrison. You know the rules: Arrive dry. Leave wet. Or bring a dry set of clothes. Right, Puddles?

Friday, Nov. 10

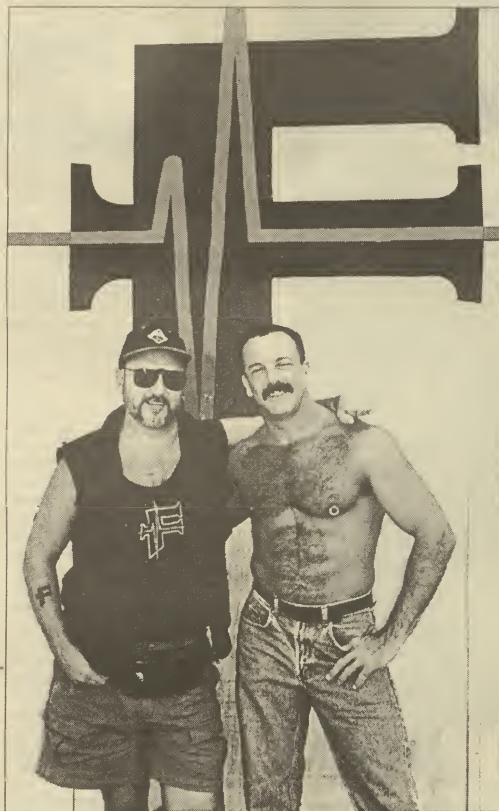
Philip Turner is celebrating another birthday tonight with a beer bust at the Eagle, with door prizes and entertainment. More on this one later. ▼

activities, things were pretty laid-back around here. And, in what seems a gesture that lends credence to the idea that we have enough leather titles, the Mr. and Ms. Olympus Leather contest was canceled due to lack of interest. This new title, ostensibly created to complement *The Leather Journal's* Pantheon of Leather Awards next Feb. in New Orleans, appears to have broken the camel's back. All around the country, the feedback I'm getting is: "Do we really need another leather title?" Time will tell.

On Saturday night, former IMsL Blair managed to rally a dedicated crew for her SF General Hospital fundraiser at the Eagle. The musical group had a difficult time setting up their gear, so the B.C. Cliver demo never came off. Quite frankly, the music wasn't that great, but I'm only quoting people in the crowd. Queen Cougar and Tala B. did an admirable job emceeing. In the end, \$1,317 was raised. Bravo! Immediately following that event, a busload of drag queens celebrating a friend's birthday invaded the Eagle. It was a bizarre night, I'll tell you.

On Sunday, the Pacific Bears hosted the Eagle beerbust. Mayoral candidate Roberta Achtenberg showed up, and though she got a big hand from the crowd, the decibel level for Willie Brown was much higher.

On Tuesday night, Oct. 17, the Lone Star Saloon didn't make a big fuss about their anniversary celebration, but the commemorative pin is very handsome and a big crowd was on hand for the celebration. Best wishes for the Lone Star's future endeavors. That wraps it up for this edition. See you next week? ▼



Shawn Farnsworth (L.), owner of the Faultline Bar in LA, poses here with popular bartender Ken Heuer during the Mr. Southern California Drummer Contest last August. Faultline is one of the hottest bars in So. California.

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BOOKS

Shaking Up the Status

TOMBOYS! *Tales of Dyke Derringer-do*, edited by Lynne Yamaguchi and Karen Barber; Alyson Publications, \$9.95

by Robin Sweeney

The first fight I ever had with my mother was about formal wear.

I was four years old, and we were going to visit my grandparents. Mother told me to get ready and put on my very best clothes. My best clothes — my cowboy jeans and favorite red-and-white checked shirt — were dirty, though. What else was I supposed to wear? Just my cowboy hat and underwear?

It turned out that my mother's idea of my best clothes involved a yellow, itchy dress, frilly socks and stupid, patent leather Mary Jane shoes that I couldn't even run in, since they had no traction. My recollection is I ended up throwing the shoes across the room at her, and we arrived at some sort of compromise involving the dress and my sneakers.

This battle continues to this day, when she sighs over the phone to me, long distance, supposing all of the twists and turns of my life stem from my "early tomboyhood." As I approach my "middle tomboyhood," I'm glad for some of the support, resonance and recognition offered by the contributors to **TOMBOYS!** *Tales of Dyke Derringer-do*, edited by Lynne Yamaguchi and Karen Barber.

Vulnerable ground
TOMBOYS! explores vulnera-

ble ground for a lot of dykes. While there is the occasional hole in the collection — I would have liked to see more from women under 30, for instance — Yamaguchi and Barber have compiled an anthology that paints a vivid portrait of the area where the lines separating gender identity, sexual orientation and, often, sheer cussedness cross to make a space for girls and women who were — and often still are — tomboys.

TOMBOYS! is full of treats, both written and visual. The book is beautifully designed and includes lots of photographs of girls in their full-blown tomboy glory. I'm not the only woman who grew up to be a queer sort of queer who traces that back to an early desire to be able to have the freedoms given boys.

The tomboys in these pieces are women who challenged the gender status quo that faced little girls growing up from World War II until the late 1960s. "Is that a boy or a girl?" and "Girls aren't supposed to do that" were the phrases that followed all of these women, and **TOMBOYS!** gives them room to explore and explain what that was like.

"Contrary to the usual assumption that a girl becomes a tomboy because she is, really, underneath it all, a lesbian, I have come to believe that I became a lesbian because really, underneath it all, I was, and remain to this day, a tomboy," Hillary Mullins says in "Evolution of a Tomboy," and several of the pieces explore growing up and being a tomboy, and holding onto the power that being different can sometimes have. Of particular note is "No Fear," by Lucy Jane Bledsoe, who explores her identity as both a tomboy and a femme, and how her tomboy self protects and celebrates her femme self.

Routine terrorization

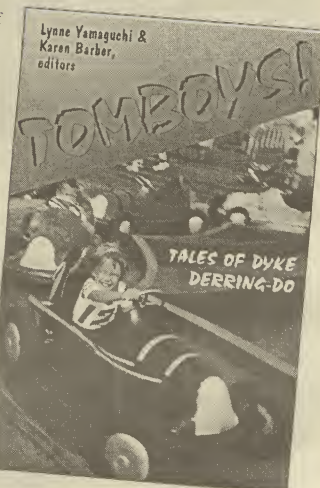
Several of the anthology's pieces are quite serious, though, and address the routine terrorization of girls who grow up as

tomboys and how threatening a different gender identity can be to others. Just as sissy boys have been beaten up and tormented, so have tomboy girls. The stories of how women faced their demons and recovered from past abuse (including sexual abuse) are some of the most moving passages here.

The power of **TOMBOYS!**, though, lies in the questions the over four dozen contributors ask. Is there room for girlhood in tomboys? Is masculinity the same thing as being a tomboy? Do all tomboys grow up to be butches? Is being a tomboy something a woman has to outgrow? And how do we treat the tomboy girls today?

As gender becomes a more acceptable topic to explore and unravel, more works like **TOMBOYS!** will be published; they will have a pretty impressive pair of sneakers to fill, however. ▼

Several of the San Francisco Bay Area contributors to **TOMBOYS! Tales of Dyke Derringer-do** will appear at a benefit for Old Wives' Tales on Sunday, October 22, at Muffdive (held at the CW saloon, 917 Folsom St.), starting at 10 p.m. The evening will include a reading, book signing and tomboy drag contest.



Heggie

Continued from page 45

bachelor's and master's degree in music. While a graduate student, he was awarded the Henry Mancini Prize for composition.

"I like the balance I have right now of working at the opera, learning about the art form, writing, doing the p.r. and working with the artists, and then also working at home (teaching piano lessons) and writing music. The most exciting thing for me in music is the collaboration," added the 34-year-old Heggie. "I always think rehearsals are even more fun than the performance, because that's when you really get to work on the music, to mold it into something wonderful."

Bay Area music lovers will have two opportunities next month to hear Heggie's musical collaboration. On November 9 at 6 p.m., Heggie and conductor Patrick Summers (who will lead the SF Opera's new production of

Gounod's *Faust* beginning November 18) will launch the 1995-96 season of "Performances at Six" with an hour-long concert of piano four-hands music by Mozart, Poulenc, Grieg and Mendelssohn. The concert is at E.C. Cabaret on the Promenade (third) level of Three Embarcadero Center.

And on November 19 he will join mezzo-soprano Lorraine Hunt and cellist Emil Miland in a benefit concert for the STOP AIDS Project at Green's Restaurant at Fort Mason. The evening will also include a champagne reception and a four-course vegetarian dinner.

"I always think life is like a roller coaster," said Heggie. "It's always taking you in different directions and you just have to hang on and go with it. It certainly has been an interesting ride so far." ▼

For information about Performances at Six call 415-398-6449. For tickets and further information about

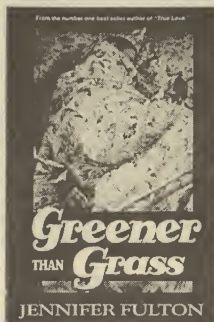
A Woman in Love

Greener Than Grass by Jennifer Fulton; Naiad, \$10.95

by Deborah Peifer

Love across the generations is the theme of Jennifer Fulton's latest novel, and she does a more than credible job exploring the agonies of being the older or the younger woman in a match made in heaven, if only those involved would get over themselves and see what they have. Blair Carroll is recovering from the painful end of a 20-year relationship when she meets, in a cute, believable misadventure, innocent 19-year-old Cassie, who's got lots to learn.

When I was a grad student at Northwestern in the late '80s I



served as the historical consultant for a production of *Hair*, a necessary function because not one cast member had been born when the original production opened. That feeling of being "historical" (read: old) stays with me to this day, and that may be why I felt such empathy for Blair. It also may be that I felt empathetic because Fulton is

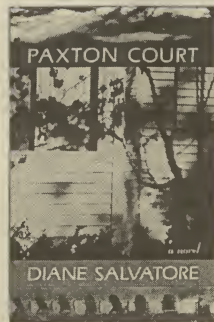
such a good writer, or maybe it's a combination of the two. At any rate, except for an ending that I think was a bit rushed, I thoroughly enjoyed *Greener Than Grass* and I expect you will, too. ▼

Golden Girls

Paxton Court by Diane Salvatore; Naiad, \$21.95

by Deborah Peifer

In the early years of lesbian publishing, a lot of the writers were young, and, as a consequence, tended to write about coming out and new relationships and, you know, young stuff. Now that lesbian publishing (and lots of lesbian readers) are getting older, it makes sense that lesbian writers would start to think about, well,



old stuff. Diane Salvatore (who wrote the extraordinary *Not Telling Mother*) takes a painful,

funny and touching look at retirement in her latest, *Paxton Court*.

Four couples, three lesbian and one gay, decide to retire together to a retirement community in Florida. And just in case their straight neighbors don't quite get it, they paint all of their houses lavender — nice touch, don't you know. In the course of the novel, we get to know them, and the joys and pains of the end of life (which sometimes really is a beginning). Salvatore is a fine writer, one capable of creating believable (and often lovable) characters. Her take on new love in the midst of the retirees' settledness is especially laudable. *Paxton Court* is a lovely novel, richly evocative of the small moments that make life so interesting. ▼

Out There

Continued from page 34

Fashion Show in November at the Castro Theatre? Why Mr. B himself will warble the putrescent tune, *not* the "aversional Carol Lynley," as originally planned by event coordinators Marc Huestis and Larry Helman. Flabbergasted by this news, we immediately phoned Outside Enterprises for confirmation, but Hostess Huestis would neither confirm nor deny Mr. B's claim. We hope it's true, though, because Linda Blair is booked solid through next May.

"I Hate That Queen!" We heard from Castro Theatre programmer Anita Monga this week, about the Castro's upcoming run of *Queen*

of *Outer Space*, that classic hunk of '50s cheese-whiz starring glam dish Zsa Zsa Gabor. Apparently Zsa Zsa and the film's distributor were talking seriously about bringing the poodle-packing actress to SF with the flick. Monga was thrilled with the idea, but when she called to finalize details, Gabor's people started adding on all sorts of extravagant costs. "They wanted \$800 for Zsa Zsa's make-up," said Monga, dumbfounded. Doubtless, that was for Zsa Zsa's neck makeup alone. *Queen of Outer Space* runs Oct. 20-26.

Finally, John F. Karr strolled into the office this week to relate to us his latest batch of sordid, unmentionable dreams. Oh, he went out at great length about some churlish teen in a strap writhing

on a soiled rubber sheet, but we weren't interested in that old Karisian saw. We were more interested in his dream about O.J. Simpson's new job, playing Othello in a community theatre production of Shakespeare's incarnadine drama of love, jealousy and murder. Unfortunately, Karr's dream ended before he could identify the drag queen who essayed *Desdemona*. "Well," chorled Karr in that bright and merry tone for which he is so loved in these parts, "I know she had very broad shoulders and gin blossoms the size of asteroids." He could only be talking about one person, of course, our very own Sweet Lips. ▼

SWEET LIPS

Greta Goes Underground

Please note my column contains no photo or item about the infamous Greta Grass per Ms. Grass' request. Seems that GG's recent brushes with fame have left her reeling and she will be spending much of her time incognito. But we know who's behind those Foster Grants, don't we, darling? Bottoms up!

A cabaret show to benefit the San Francisco Night Ministry, "Music of the Night," hits the boards Sat., Oct. 21, 7:30-11 p.m., at the Urban Life Center, 1101 O'Farrell St. Empress I Jose Sarria, a.k.a. The Widow Norton, will emcee in her own inimitable fashion. For more info on this must-see event, please call 956-2069.

The ever-popular Bobby Pace performs at Linda's Phone Booth out on South Van Ness Ave. Mon., Fri. and Sun. days and Tues. and Sat. nights. So do drop by and tickle his ivories, or at the very least drop a couple dollars down his cummerbund.

Every third Thursday of the month at Kimo's Penthouse Showroom at 9 p.m., you can catch the stupendous Alexis Miranda show. She's so hot she's on fire! Don't miss her next outing, Oct. 19. And on Saturday, Oct. 21, at 3 p.m., please gather at Kimo's for the celebration of life for Bruce Harrelson.

Birthdays to celebrate this

month: Jay "Ethyl" Noonan's on Oct. 23, the Swallow's Mike Dooley's on Oct. 29 and the Giraffe's David Webb's "39th" (again?!). The latter is so old you could actually transpose those numbers and be closer to the truth.

The Portland (Ore.) coronation is Sat., Oct. 21, and a large SF contingent will be in attendance, including *moi* naturally (someone has to keep those cocktails coming). Emperor Steve Rascher and Bart Dreyer, and of course, our current emperor and empress. A spectacular weekend is planned, including an out-of-town show on a river boat and a victory brunch at the famed Embers/Avenue bar on Sun., Oct. 22, at 11 a.m. Bring the Dramamine and your sea legs!

That charming Embers/Avenue owner Steve Suss will be returning with the SF gang on Monday for a couple of nights at the opera with esteemed B.A.R. publisher Bob Ross.

The Mr./Miss Gay California Pageant takes place at the California Club, 1750 Clay, on Sat., Nov. 4, at 7 p.m. sharp. Who will be the new faces that cop the crowns? Be there and find out for yourself! Maybe it'll be me! That pageant could use a boost!

Happy Allhallow's Eve, everyone, and do be witchy. You never know what's lurking out there. ▼

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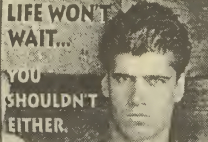
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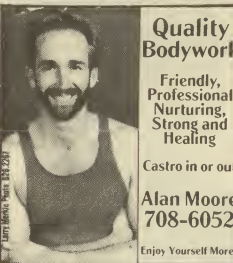
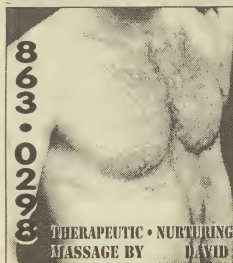
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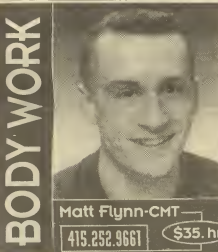
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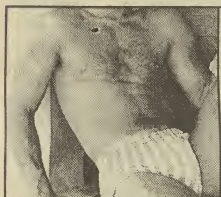
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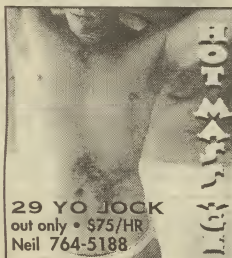
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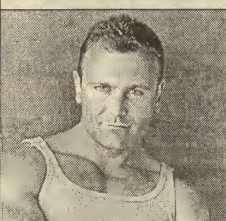
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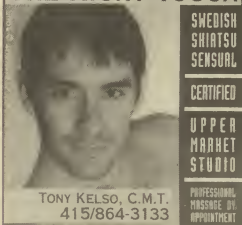
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SATISFACTION

Pleasurable "Asian" Massage
Pgr*578-5253/715-6088 In/Out

MASSAGE


In Search of the Finest in Sensual Massage

Full Body Sensual Massage

\$30-\$50 in \$40-\$60 out

Larry 252-9597

"ENJOY and RELAX
with a 24 yo **LATIN STUD**"
out/in by **CARLOS**
(415) **865-0167**
pgr (415) **220-9207**

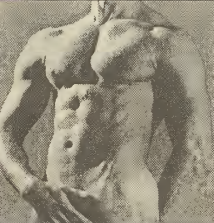
 **JEFF GIBSON**
CMT
626-7095
\$50

"I've had hundreds of massages before and yours is the best-the best of the best!"

Joe Marchal, Olympic athlete

- Deep Tissue
- Sports Massage
- Neuromuscular Therapy
- Soft Tissue Release
- Swedish
- Cross Fiber
- Trigger Point
- PNF Stretches

Everybody Needs Bodywork



This Body DOES Bodywork

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Smooth Blond 773-9130 Kory
SF Hotels OK

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\$60 JIM 267-1817

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WANNA MELT?
Castro. Certified. \$35
Jim De Masseur * 621-4517

Handsone, Friendly WM, 32,
Built (5'10", 170#), Great Hands
Gives Full-Body, Swedish
Massage. \$45 In/Out. Marin/SF
Days/Eves. Mike, CMT 388-4583

Erotic Full-Body Massage
By Warm, Slender, Nude
Versatile East Bay Guy
\$25 JIM (510) 527-2714

*** MID-PENINSULA ***
5+Yrs Exp. CMT, Great Hands
In/Out, Tom, (415) 345-7318

Nude massage by cute guy
5'5" 135 lbs Nice Chest and
Arms Nice Body Older Men
Welcome \$40 Donald 351-2034


Erotic Full-Body Massage
RUSSIAN RIVER
By Sexy, Well-Built Stud
\$40/In*Bob*(707) 865-2093

Nude Mass. by Well-Built Man 42
Downtown. 398-2441 24 Hrs.

Ecstasy of BERLIN

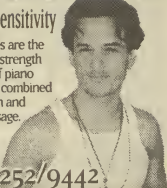
Handsome 27, with a passionate touch
for your unabashed pleasure.

Brblr 5'9"/150# 8" uncult
\$55/1hr. \$70/90 min.
Sliding Scale for PWA

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Happy Hour 11 to 5

Genuine Sensitivity

Your muscles are the focus as the strength of 21 years of piano technique is combined with Swedish and Shiatsu Massage. There is a difference.

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Soar on the Wings of an Eagle

& Relax in Bliss!
22, Athletic & Mysterious!
Swedish, Shiatsu,
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Top quality sensuous massage by
friendly handsome, well-built Asian
\$40/90 min. Certified
Near S.F. Airport
Clean, Private, Easy Parking
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Deep Tissue Swedish
Prostate Complete Relief
Have Table; In/Out; Will Travel
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Because Life is Meant to Feel Good

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BY FRED OR BUTCHY
90-MINUTES \ \$35.00
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Old Pro \$35 * Roy* 626-6090

Massage & Baths by Blond
LET'S GET WET!!
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Shiatsu
Tai No
Swedish
Professional Weight
Training

FULL-BODY MASSAGE
Given by 26 Y/O Student.
Clean Cut & Friendly.
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SONOMA CO & RUSSIAN RIV
Erotic Full-Body Massage
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Older & Large Men Welcome
Any Race * 773-9130 * Kory

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Young 28 Cambodian, 5'7", 135
10AM-10pm. Sorry no Top
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Shiatsu • Oil Massage • \$50
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Deep-tissue, Swdsh full-body erot
ic massage by yng blnd BB trainer
Jeff \$45 In/Out 550-6833 cert



Sensual Msg, Escort
& More Hot Jock
Discount for 2 Clients
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Bodywise Therapeutics

Great Deep Swedish, Shiatsu, Reiki &
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Also teach Reiki classes. Quiet Noe Studio.
Available daytime. \$35/hr. & up.

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Friendly, professional, and in Palo Alto with parking. My
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\$10 per 15 minutes. Call Soon.
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Relax & Unwind
experienced,
strong & friendly
masseur works in
pleasant, roomy
house near Muni,
easy parking, quiet
neighborhood

Massage Play, Snuggle, Etc.
\$40 SPECIAL!!
Handsome, hung, Oral XX-pert
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Full-Body, Deep-Tissue
Erotic Massage by 31 Y/O
Very Handsome, Masculine
Italian Male * 415-282-4030

X-Handsome 25 Y/O German
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\$75 * Out * Markus 280-1476

Swedish Deep-Tissue Massage
Smooth, Swimmer's Build
Defined, Attractive, Exotic
George Hamilton Look-Alike
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Outcalls preferred, Hotels
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A blissful, luxurious, ecstatic,
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Athletic Massage 715-6410



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Nr. Nob Hill 773-9130. Kory

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Complete, Sexy Massage By
BUFFED BLOND
Gr Eyes/Tan/Smooth/Young!
Very Handsome/Exp/Prompt.

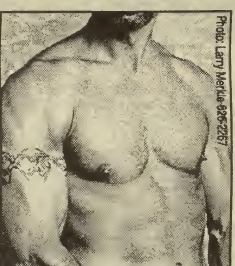


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Deep Tissue
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Clean, Warm, Private,
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4 Years Experience
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Strong & Relaxing Massage
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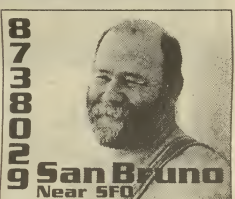
22 yo student fresh from London
deep tissue, professional massage
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Strong, Gentle Hairy
10 years experience
Great Sense of Touch

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Personal Touch
Therapeutic & Erotic
Deep, Satisfying Massage
Certified & Discreet
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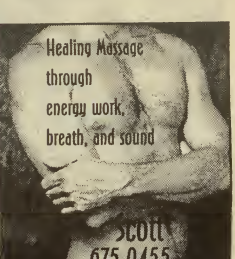


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Near SFO

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ECSTATIC MASSAGE
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Masc. Hand. 6'2" 200 Bi-Man will
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Best Erotic Mass. in Town
Unzip, Lie Back and Let It Go!
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Hndsm, healthy hands &
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through
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Nurturing & Relaxation
Attractive 28 yr old
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Warm Environment
Comfortable Table
90 min. ~\$45.00
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Want someone
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I give a full
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in the nude.
I am a Norwe-
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Lt. bodybuilder
& swimmer,
handsome
& clean-cut.
Certified.
\$45 in. 24 hrs.

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Therapeutic Massage Swedish / Shiatsu

\$30-\$60
Sliding Scale

6 Years Experience, Non Sexual
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Deep Tissue a Specialty
Near Castro \$45/60 \$55/90
Out \$70/90min

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TRY IT!
BY DAVID 457-5795 In Marin

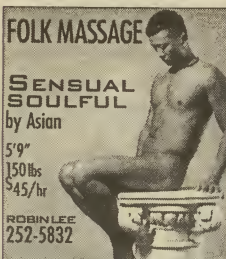
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Nurturing, Sensual
Healing, Satisfying



STRONG HANDS
SENSITIVE & EXPERIENCED
From Stress Reduction to
Simple Relaxation

STEVE C.M.T.
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SENSUAL SOULFUL
by Asian

5'9"
150 lbs
\$45/hr

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Sensual Therapeutic Massage For
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swedish tantric zen shiatsu reiki
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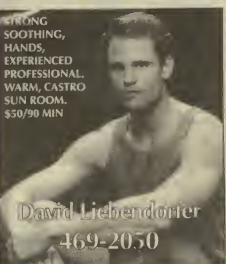


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Relax with an expert Swedish Esalen Massage

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386-0152, \$35/hr., \$45/1-1/2 hour
Body Electric Graduate since 1986



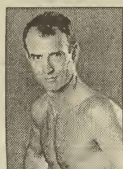
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RELAXING • SENSUAL • HEALING
A Superb Massage by a
Strong, Sensitive, Nurturing,
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Offers nurturing full-body
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Private Studio 15th/Dolores
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SONOMA COUNTY
35, Bld/Gim Strong
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Full-body Deep-Tissue,
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Swedish-Erotic Massage
by Very Handsome,
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Italian Male

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Sensitive, Strong Touch
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Wear It On Your Penis and
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\$60/\$80 JIM 267-1817

TALL, HOT, HAIRY, HAND-
SOME, HORSE-HUNG,
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BEEFY, LONG-LASTING STUD
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Handsome Hung 8" And Thick!
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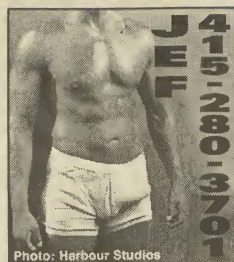
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THE 9X7 CLUB
Hot, Sexy, Handsome Stud
Experience the Total Package
Nice Body & Great Personality
Dominant Top. Available 24 Hrs.
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220 Lb Body Builder
10". Call Lasalle * 431-5923

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Rates adjust to time.
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ItalianBoy

Husky & Hairy

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19 Y/O Party Boy 10 1/2" 24Hrs
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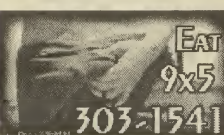
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Hot guy next door treats you right!
Br. hair, Br. eyed.
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Very Friendly, Hung, Handsome
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▶ EXTRA HANDSOME ◀
College Jock with defined
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Fun, Friendly & Gorgeous
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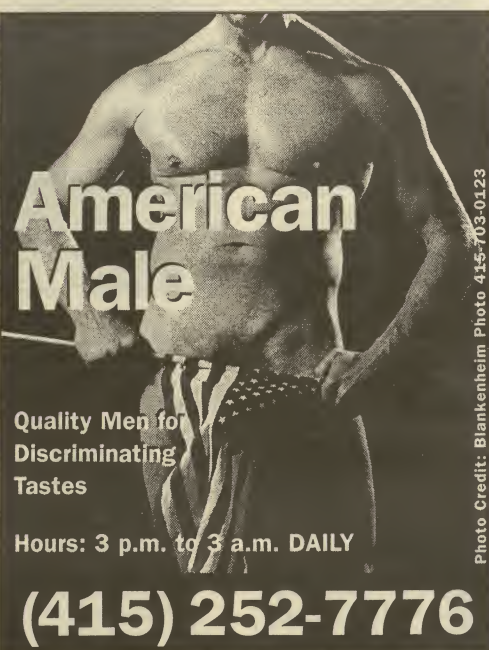
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Watch me strip at your place.
Enjoy the show as I sit on your
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Toned, Attractive. Worship me!
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5'9", 165, HOT PISTOL
A Handsome, Muscular
Masculine Man With a Soft
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-long, & slow- my specialty.
6'2", 185, strong, gymtuned
master into all aspects &
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Masculine, Horse-Hung Jack
Athletic Build • Friendly
Dominant • Verbal • Long Lasting
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Handsome
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DON'T GET HUSTLED
By Wannabees who can't
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both legs in approval. Call
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All inquiries are made in person.
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FOOT FETISH STUD
6'2". Handsome, 195 lbs, Hot!
Size 14 Feet. X-Hung * Uncut
Explore Your Fantasies!!
Matt 487-7647*26 Y/O*OUT
Leaving Bay Area Soon!

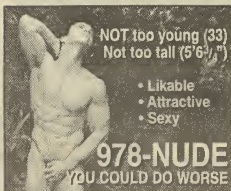
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Goodlooking, Versatile
Great Ass Always Hot 24 Y/O
5'6" 145 Lbs In/Out 80/100
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HANDSOME LEATHER MAN
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NOT too young (33)
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• Likable
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YOU COULD DO WORSE

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21 year olds
New!
\$60 Out-In
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Daddies, Bears and Chubbies (250lbs+)

Or any combination thereof, and the men
that love them wanted to star in erotic
videos. Fun work, easy-going atmosphere
Call Rick (415) 543-1781

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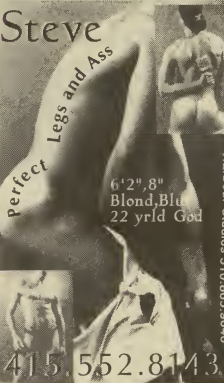
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Tender & Passionate ...or
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22 yrd God

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Nice Body. 10X6"

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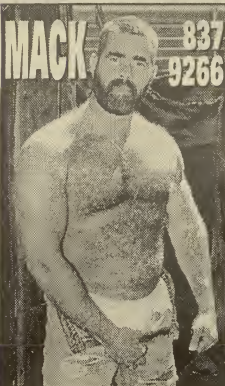
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Best Lay - Low Pay
"Top" Secret
One of the Biggest and Best
Butt-Busting Tools of the Trade
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Handsome Italian Hard Body
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Hot 22 yr old
college-boy-next-door-type
6' 170 lb tight and hung big.
Business men and mature men
welcome.

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(your no. plus 1) \$100 in/out



ATTENTION!

THE POWERFUL MASTER in Town
HOT, HAIRY, DOMINANT
Experienced, Most Scenes
Fully Stocked Private Playroom



TOM 487-1296

10" HUNG STUD

20 Yr Skinhead
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HIRED MAN

6'4" 195# Blond/Blu Hairy
Pretty Hose & Lug Nuts
Luke * 24 Hrs*Pgr: 605-4013

ALL AMERICAN MAN

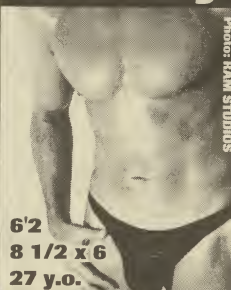
Handsome Masc Tall Hairy
Equipped and Friendly
24 Hrs*Chaz*Page: 207-8089

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Tight built, laid-back, lean
smooth & Masculine. Best of All,
HUNG ... LIKE A STALLION!
Mario * \$85 * (415) 255-8677

Young, Friendly 'n Versatile
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Call: C.J. (415) 245-1597 In/Out

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Hot, Heavily Tattooed
Leather Daddy, FF Top, Out Only
JOE * 441-9121

Anthony



6'2"
8 1/2 x 6
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Serving all bay areas

WRESTLING

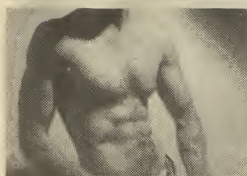
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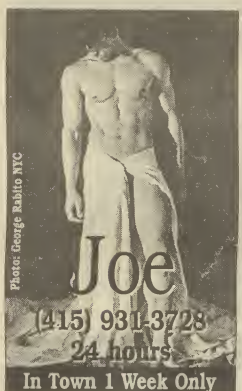
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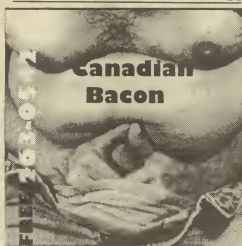
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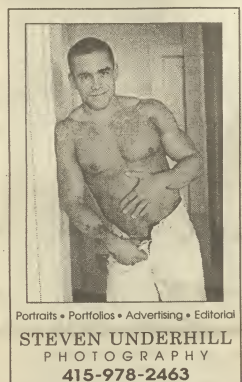
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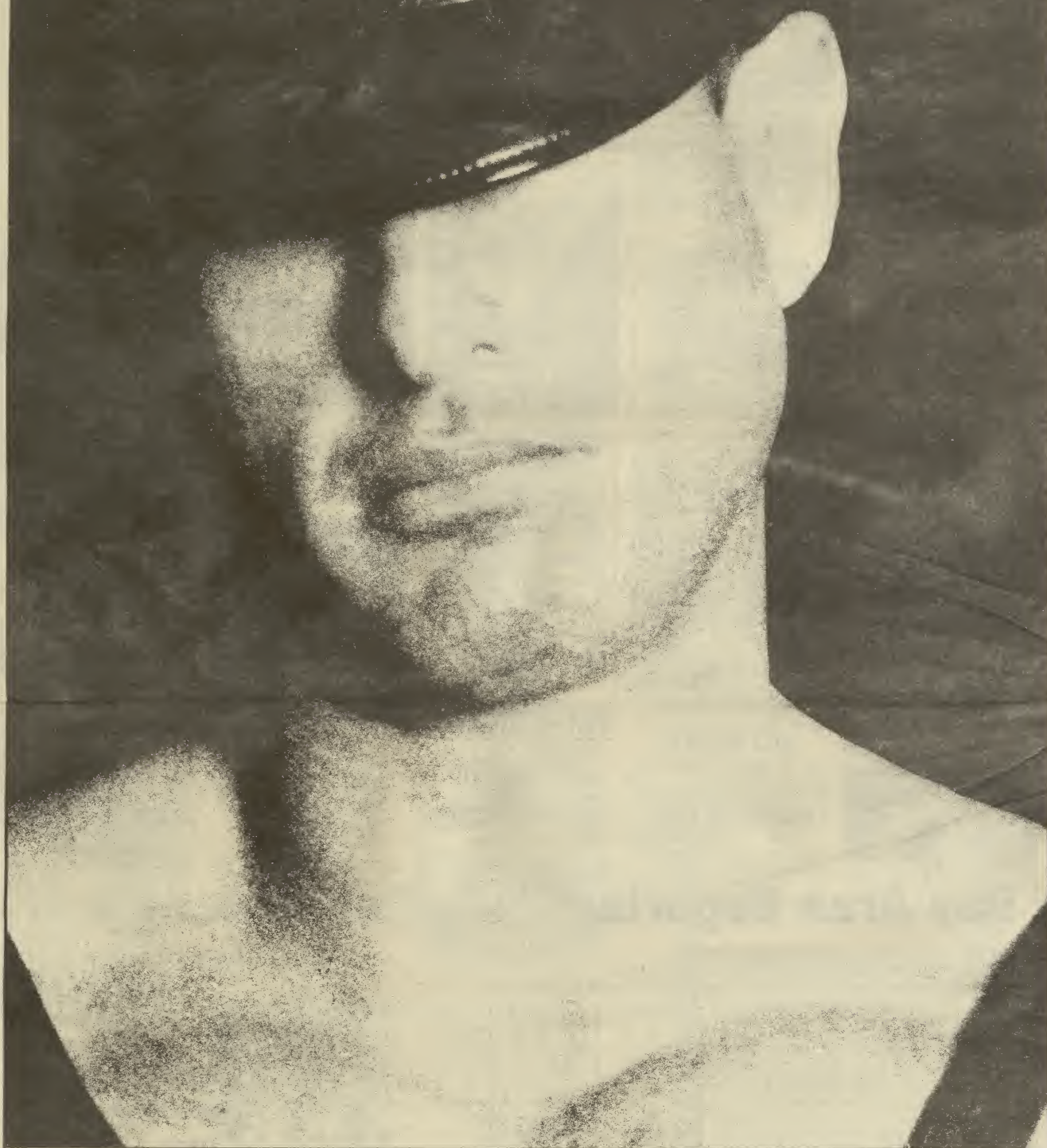
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